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IDF soldier killed in South Lebanon Over 200 homes damaged by katyusha barrages on Kiryat Shmona

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

A SOLDIER was killed and two were wounded in the latest flare-up along the Lebanon border yesterday...

St. Sgt. Uri Shraga Friedman, 20, of Ramat Hasharon, died when an IDF position came under fire...

The casualties brought to seven the number of soldiers killed and 30 wounded so far this year in south Lebanon...

Residents of villages north of the security zone were reportedly fleeing northward in anticipation of an Israeli action...

The Upper Galilee witnessed widespread cancellations by tourists over the holiday...

Following the Katyusha attacks, Prime Minister Shimon Peres said the government has no policy of restraint...

Deputy Defense Minister Ori Orr stressed that a military operation in south Lebanon would not necessarily bring quiet to the Galilee...

used as a human shield by Hizbullah. But he refused to elaborate on what Israel was planning to do...

The IDF casualties occurred when Hizbullah gunmen shelled and machine gunned a position at Blatt, just 500 meters north of the border...

At least one retreating gunman was wounded, a security source said. But reports from Lebanon said the wounded person was a youth from the village of Yatar...

In a second attack, Hizbullah gunmen blasted an SLA position near the village of Beit Leef with mortars and Sagger missiles...

On Tuesday, Hizbullah fired 14 Katyushas on the Galilee. The rockets in the west fell harmlessly into orchards...

Residents of the North had been ordered to spend Monday night in bomb shelters, following announcements by Hizbullah that it would avenge the death of a Lebanese teenager killed in a land mine explosion...

One apartment building suffered two direct hits, with one rocket striking a reinforced security room and wounding Hannah Azulai, 16. She was rushed to Rebecca Sieff Hospital in Safed in serious condition...

At least one other rocket hit a private residence, but the occupants had chosen to spend the night with relatives.



A Kiryat Shmona resident looks through the window of his destroyed home on Tuesday.

(Avihu Shapira/Israel Sun)

The damage caused by the rockets was estimated at NIS 2 million. The rockets damaged some 200 apartments, nine cars, and a bus.

The city was the scene of ugly protests following the attack. Angry residents took to the streets to voice their frustration over what they called the government's failure to retaliate...

The demonstrations took on a political flavor as residents lashed out at Peres, saying he had failed

and needed to be replaced. Peres, who had visited the nearby Gior army base, declined to stop in Kiryat Shmona after security officials and local leaders advised him his appearance would likely spark unwanted confrontations...

But Internal Security Minister Moshe Shabab and Police Insp.-Gen. Assaf Hefetz, surrounded by dozens of bodyguards, did inspect the damaged homes and attempted to calm the residents.

Opposition leaders have blasted the government for not hitting

back at Hizbullah. Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu, who visited the site of the Katyusha attack, pressed for military retaliation.

"There are many ways of fighting terrorism, but the first decision is to fight it and I hope that decision is forthcoming," he told reporters. "Peres knows that he'll have my backing if he does this."

Netanyahu would not elaborate on what he proposed but added: "We have excellent commanders, and they have excellent plans and excel-

lent means. They simply have to be given the go-ahead to act against the sources of terror."

OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amram Levine said the war against Hizbullah has to be waged with guns and ammunition. He added that Israeli civilians should not be the only ones to suffer.

"The residents in south Lebanon who are under the responsibility of Hizbullah will be hit harder and the Hizbullah will be hit harder, and we will find the way to act correctly and quickly," he said.

Peres: We have no policy of restraint

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

PRIME Minister Shimon Peres said the government would not be pushed into an immediate retaliation for the rocket attacks in the North and that its response would be a "calculated decision."

"We are considering in a very calculated way what should be done, what shouldn't be done... Our considerations are on the merits of the case. They are not colored by either political considerations or any other considerations," Peres told reporters after Tuesday's Katyusha attack in Kiryat Shmona.

"I promise you this is not restraint and it is not fear and not elections," he said at the Gior army base in the Upper Galilee.

Peres said he, "unlike others," could not divulge what the government is planning to do, but stressed that it would not be restrained.

Peres also said Israel had refrained from retaliating after last week's rocket attack because he wanted the residents of the North to have a "quiet holiday."

"This is a guerrilla war which has gone on for decades," Peres said. "And a guerrilla war has its own rules and different time frames from an ordinary war. I can understand the frustration and the protest of the residents of the Upper Galilee and of Kiryat Shmona."

"We will do what we have to do in an orderly and organized fashion."

Israel's modest goals in Lebanon remain a distant dream

COMMENT

DAVID MAKOVSKY

ISRAEL'S departure from past practice by refusing to appeal to the US to mediate a solution to the tension in southern Lebanon shows that a diplomatic solution to the current tension is not in the cards.

Senior officials suggest there are no great options. Prime Minister Shimon Peres will either continue with sporadic bombing, hoping Hizbullah will restrain itself, or else initiate in broader military action hoping to force Hizbullah to operate outside Lebanese villages.

Israel's goals are as modest as they are unmet: ensuring fighting in southern Lebanon does not spill over into Israel. Anything more ambitious, Yitzhak Rabin said just a few days before his death, could only occur after there is peace with Syria.

Until such a diplomatic solution is reached, Israel has resigned itself to an ongoing war of attrition, especially since Peres and the security establishment believe a unilateral withdrawal from the security zone would only invite Hizbullah infiltrations into Israel.

Rabin believed he could contain the fighting to southern Lebanon after 1993's Operation Accountability, when the US brokered a deal whereby Israeli civilians and Lebanese civilians north of the security zone would be outside the parameters of the fighting. A violation by one side would invite retaliation by the other. In short, the security zone was supposed to be a boxing ring.

This may sound fair, but the inherent flaw of the understanding is that Hizbullah then based itself in civilian areas north of the security zone. It wanted it both ways. It won political points with villagers by saying it was their protector by guaranteeing retaliation if Israel struck, while at the same time hiding behind the skirts of the villagers and declaring it was immune under the 1993 rules.

Assessing the effectiveness of any strike, the

yardstick for Israeli action must be whether it succeeds in separating Hizbullah bases from the civilian population. Those arguing against such a strike say that Operation Accountability only caused Hizbullah to pause for a short while before resuming its attacks, and it will ensure that Kiryat Shmona gets more Katyushas.

Hizbullah will not leave its bases voluntarily. There seem to be only two forces which could potentially pressure it to leave, Syria and the Lebanese government. So far the problem seems to be that Damascus may have the capability, but not the will, and Beirut may have the will, but not the capability.

With Israel no longer negotiating with Syria, it seems Damascus may have lost some of its incentive to heed the US call and demand that Hizbullah cease its attacks. It is increasingly sounding like a country with nothing to lose.

Furthermore, it probably would not mind an Israeli retaliation, which could potentially embarrass Arab countries that will participate in a US-led anti-terrorism follow-up conference in Europe on April 22.

Finally, even if Syria would curb Hizbullah, its terms - deploying Syrian soldiers in southern Lebanon - are unacceptable.

In a bid to restore central authority, the Lebanese government wanted to deploy troops in the south after Operation Accountability. While this was favored by Israel, it was blocked by Damascus.

Will an Israeli strike force Damascus and Beirut to curb Hizbullah? It remains unclear.

An alternative may be for Israel to announce that if Hizbullah does not leave Lebanese villages by a certain date, it will view those villages as exempt from the 1993 understandings and fire on them when necessary.

Arafat: Hamas in Amman is declaring war on PA, and Jordan is doing nothing

JON IMMANUEL

PALESTINIAN Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat yesterday accused Hamas in Jordan of declaring war on his government in order to force Israel to negotiate with the Islamic movement. He then blamed Jordan for doing little to suppress Hamas.

Arafat, speaking to the 88-member Palestinian Authority Council assembled in Ramallah, did not distinguish between Hamas and its armed wing, Izzadin Kassam, which he has outlawed.

"There is a complete detailed military plan with mechanisms for implementing the confrontation," Arafat said.

Reading from what he said was a "declaration of war" written in Amman on April 19, 1995, Arafat said Hamas's ultimate goal is that "Israel will abandon the PLO and make concessions to our movement [Hamas]... We have a lot more dangerous information to reveal."

Arafat also said Jordan had done little to suppress Hamas in Amman, from where he said it operates. However, Hamas officials there say they do not give orders but act as spokesmen.

When asked about the accusations of the torture of Hamas prisoners by Palestinian police, Arafat responded that much of the evidence about the war

plans was supported by confessions from prisoners.

Four Hamas supporters in the council held a press conference in Gaza on Tuesday demanding

that police stop torturing arrested Islamic militants and activists. Council Member Wajih Yaghi said prisoners were "tied with chains, called by women's names, and accused of collaborating with Israel."

At least one prisoner among the estimated 1,000 who have been arrested since the four-sided bombings early last month is in Gaza's Shifa Hospital after fainting during interrogation. In addition, the man, Mohammed Khoudari, 52, who heads an Islamic society for the aged, has not been allowed to receive visitors, Yaghi said.

Arafat said the council members at the press conference had called on police to disobey orders and therefore, "this requires that I lift the immunity of the four to interrogate them."

They include Yaghi, Mousa Zabout, Yusef Shanti, and Imad Falouji, who was elected on a Fatah ticket and has acted as a Fatah-Hamas mediator in the past.

"We are on the edge of a volcano," Reuters quoted Arafat as saying.

Arafat also asked the council for two more weeks to form a cabinet, apparently in an effort to woo opposition members of the PLO and isolate Islamic militants.

'PNC to meet on April 22 to change its charter'

JON IMMANUEL

SALIM Zaanoun, acting chairman of the Palestine National Council, said yesterday that the historic meeting of the PNC to change the Palestinian charter is planned for April 22.

Speaking from Amman where he was meeting PNC members, Zaanoun told Palestine Radio that "President Arafat called me last night and told me to send the invitations to the PNC members and to prepare all documents needed to convene the session on April 22."

Arafat is chairman of the PLO executive committee which must call the meeting.

Zaanoun added that the meeting, which according to the Oslo 2 timetable should be held by May 7, could be postponed or held in Cairo's Arab League building if Israel failed to provide permits for 86 PNC members who have not yet received them.

Leila Khaleel, who hijacked airplanes in the late Sixties and early Seventies, will come, Palestinian sources said.

"The PNC plans a new national charter instead of the old one," Zaanoun said.

He did not say whether the old charter would be explicitly annulled as required by the terms of the Oslo agreement. The new 17-article charter, largely written, refers to a Palestinian state next to Israel with neighborly relations.

Palestinian think tank attempts to bridge gaps on Jerusalem

BILL HUTMAN

AFTER receiving a go-ahead from the Palestinian Authority, a leading Palestinian think tank has prepared a declaration of principles on Jerusalem aimed at bridging the differences between the PA and Israel over the city's future.

The proposal, included in a paper entitled "Projection of the Future of Jerusalem," is to be published in the upcoming

journal of the think tank, the Arab Thought Forum. A copy was obtained in advance of publication.

The 10-point declaration contains many of the traditional Palestinian positions on Jerusalem, including that it remain an open city, with the western half as the capital of Israel, and the eastern half the capital of a future Palestinian state.

But it then goes on to offer new proposals for overcoming the differences with Israel on the city's future, including by implementing a stage-by-stage agreement in the style of the Oslo accords.

"In light of the experience gained in applying the Oslo agreement in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, there is a possibility of imposing the solution in stages," states the paper, authored by Forum chairman Abdel Rahman Abu Arafat.

"If the concept of implementation by stages is accepted, East Jerusalem may be divided into areas of various degrees of sovereignty. The holy Moslem and Christian places, for example, could be considered as Area A, and have full Palestinian sovereignty, unlike Area B, Arab population centers, where the Palestinian

sovereignty is reduced.

"Israel will have full supremacy over the suburban settlements (Area C)," with Israeli withdrawal from Areas A and B carried out in stages, the paper states.

It also suggests the PA demand Israel allow east Jerusalem be included in the upcoming Palestinian municipal elections, something Palestinian officials have discussed privately recently.

If Israel refuses, the PA should take the "unpopular, but important, step of postponing the municipal

elections until the end of the final stage elections, in order to include Jerusalem," the paper states.

Arafat said that "publication of the report was approved by PA officials," although he declined to say whom. He emphasized that this did not necessarily mean the officials approved all its contents.

Negotiations on Jerusalem's future are slated to begin next month, although they are likely to be delayed because of the elections.

The declaration of principles includes points calling for "municipal affairs to be run by separate councils. one

Palestinian ... and another Israeli," and for the establishment of a "coordinating council... to deal with matters of common concern."

"The issue of Jewish settlements in the eastern part will be solved within the comprehensive agreement on other postponed issues," states point No. 5. "Municipal borders of both municipalities will be fixed according to the public interest of both parties," states point No. 6.

The proposed declaration also states that "Jewish holy sites will be under complete and direct control of Israel, while

Moslem and Christian holy places will be under Palestinian authority."

"Public services must be run to serve both sectors," states point No. 10. "For example, the western sector will be able to make use of the air services rendered by Jerusalem airport. In return, the eastern sector will make use of railway services available in the western part." The report notes that, on the surface, "the declared positions of both parties differ so considerably, as if there was no place for a solution." But it goes on to argue that the "extreme positions about Jerusalem will not survive."

Vertical text on the left margin: Airline office, TRAVELER WITH THE EXPERT, CARD PROGRAM

Vertical text on the right margin: 3, t, of, n, 8, 2, k, is, id, to, a, ut, ur, p, n, id, 0, n, s, a, pt, its, ly, id, n, er, ur, re, ce, in, at, ry, b, is, 1, r), m, H, n, ng, of, ed, to, m, ak, m, cl, ed, ae, a, a, ed, 13, m, ed, ng, g, ur, e, e, nd, ae, b,



# Katyushas cause NIS 2m. damage

TUESDAY'S Katyusha salvoes on Kiryat Shmona caused some NIS 2 million in property damage, according to assessors who visited the city late Tuesday afternoon.

Losses by the tourism industry in the area have not yet been determined.

The assessors toured the three badly hit areas of the town and helped residents fill out insurance claim forms.

Some 200 apartments, nine cars, and one bus were damaged by the rockets launched by Hizbullah from Lebanon. In 40 apartments, damage was estimated at more than NIS 8,000.

Next week, the Finance Ministry's property tax division will work on estimates for tourism industry damage. The little property damage caused in the Western Galilee will also be assessed next week.

Six families whose apartments were seriously damaged were moved to temporary housing. Other apartments which were blown open were sealed and under guard by a security company.

Many tourists left the Western Galilee, while others canceled their plans to visit there after residents were told to stay in bomb shelters on Monday.

Some 30 families checked out of the youth hostel in Rosh Hanikra on Monday night and Tuesday morning, leaving it completely empty, according to Etti Perez, the hostel's manager.

Many people also called to cancel their reservations for the last day of Pessah, she added. A group that had reserved all of the hostel's 48 rooms for this weekend also called on Tuesday to say it will not come if the situation doesn't improve.

At the youth hostel in Shlomi, some guests also left or canceled reservations. However, a group of 300 religious guests decided to stay there throughout Pessah, as planned, in order to demonstrate their sympathy for Galilee residents.

The Carleton Hotel in Nahariya reported that none of its guests had left and that the hotel's 200 rooms are all occupied. (Tim)

## Party registration to last until midnight

LIAT COLLINS

REGISTRATION of political parties competing in the Knesset elections will continue until midnight tonight.

On Tuesday, six parties registered with the Central Election Committee in the Knesset. Some of those registering slept overnight in the compound to increase their chances of being first to request the identifying initials on the ballot slip. The new immigrant party, Yisrael Be'aliya, was granted the letters *kaf nun*, making the Hebrew word for yes, while the pensioners party headed by Labor breakaway MK Nava Arad was granted a *feh*.

CEC head Tamar Edri could not estimate how many parties will ultimately sign up. Parties Registrar Ze'ev Boech noted 30 parties had registered, but only 24 are expected to run on their own. Others include the components of Meretz and those on the Likud-led joint list.

After a party is registered with the CEC it cannot make changes in its list. The final list of parties eligible to run in the elections will be issued May 5, after the forms have been closely checked. The CEC decision can be challenged in the High Court if necessary.

Candidates for prime minister are also signing up. Apart from Shimon Peres and Binyamin Netanyahu, forms have been reportedly been requested by five others including MK Yosef Ba-Gad and Ahmed Thihi. A candidate must present the signatures of either 10 MKs or 50,000 supporters. The signatures of the supporters will also be checked to ensure they belong to citizens of voting age not listed with more than one party.

The Registrar of Parties' list shows some seven Arab or joint Arab-Jewish parties. Apart from Yisrael Be'aliya, two other immigrant parties are expected to register, Aliya (an acronym for Our People for the Renewal of Israel) and Unity for Immigration - A National Democratic Movement, headed by Likud breakaway MK Ebrahim Gur.

Other parties include Ra'ash (an acronym forming the word "noise"), which is dedicated to fighting for rights for men, and several others led by MKs who have left their factions to strike out on their own including Ba-Gad and Sbaul Gutmao (both formerly Moledet).

## 9 candidates vying for 'Russian' slot on Labor list

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

NINE immigrants from the former Soviet Union are to contend today for slot No. 25 on Labor's Knesset list.

The results of the election, which will be held among the 17,000 Russian immigrant Labor Party members, are due to be published this afternoon.

The main struggle is expected to be among the two candidates who ran in Labor's primaries last month: Sofa Landveti, of Ashdod, chairperson of the Russian immigrants' association; and Sergio Michaili, of Haifa, head of Labor's immigrants' association. Both lost to Adisu Massala, an Ethiopian immigrant, who was placed in slot No. 29, reserved for a new immigrant.

Also running are: Alexander Aterman, 40, of Beit El; Dr. Leila Ba'azova of Holon; Shimon Betorin, 43, of Karmiel; Shimon Golosinsky, 37, of Karmiel; Alexander Wamowitzky, 47, of Holon; Aharon Wolfowitz, 51, of Petah Tikva; and Ronco Floot, 41, of Upper Nazareth. Floot ran in Labor's northern district primary and won slot 45 on the list.

## Polish premier probes decision on extremist march at Auschwitz

WARSAW (Reuters) - Polish Prime Minister Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz said yesterday that he had ordered a probe into a provincial governor's decision to let a far-right group march at the Auschwitz death camp last week.

Cimoszewicz said the governor of Bialsko-Biala province, where the camp is located, had been summoned to a cabinet meeting

in Warsaw yesterday to explain his decision.

The Roman Catholic Church also condemned the march, calling it "an abuse of freedom, for which the whole nation has to be ashamed."

The governor said he allowed the demonstration last Saturday because the group had blackmailed him by threatening to

gather at the camp on April 16, when young Jews from around the world are to commemorate the Holocaust there.

During the demonstration, 100 banner-bearing young skinheads marched between Auschwitz and Birkenau shouting anti-Western slogans.

Cimoszewicz said the governor should not have allowed the march, even if he had been blackmailed, because a state official should not be subject to such threats.

We grieve the passing of our beloved husband,  
father and grandfather

### Prof. MOSHE DAVIS

The funeral will take place tomorrow,  
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grieves with the family at the passing of

### Prof. MOSHE DAVIS

Founding Academic Chairman

For details of the funeral and shiva  
please phone 02-619032 or 02-611142.

With great sorrow, we announce the passing of  
my beloved brother and our dear uncle

### MENDEL MAGREE GOLDBERG 77

The funeral will take place today,  
Thursday, April 11, 1996, (Nissan 22, 5756) at 3 p.m.  
at the Holon cemetery, meeting at the cemetery gate.

Please refrain from condolence visits.

The family

## US Senate to investigate Swiss banks' holdings of Holocaust victims' assets

MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK

SAYING he wants justice for Holocaust survivors, the head of the Senate Banking Committee is setting the stage for a broad inquiry into the status of millions of dollars deposited into Swiss banks by European Jews before World War II.

"Huge sums of wealth vanished, and some of it may be sitting in Swiss banks today," said Sen. Alfonse D'Amato of New York, the committee chairman. "What we want is justice after so many years for the survivors of the Holocaust and for the victims' families."

The committee will hold a

hearing on April 23 that will lay the groundwork for a comprehensive inquiry into Swiss banks' holdings of assets of Holocaust victims and survivors, D'Amato said this week.

Jewish groups have disputed the Swiss Bankers Association's assertion that valued Jewish assets from before the Holocaust at \$32 million.

It was not clear whether the Senate would take any action against the Swiss banks if its inquiry uncovered any

irregularities.

The inquiry is expected to examine the procedures used by the banks to calculate the assets and whether the searches were comprehensive. According to D'Amato, the 1962 and 1995 searches used different criteria in conducting their reviews.

"I plan on actively pursuing this matter until I achieve an authoritative, accurate, and final accounting of all assets that numerous Swiss banks continue to hold from this time period and to which the survivors and rightful heirs are entitled," D'Amato told the Senate.

## Some NY Orthodox groups plan boycott of Holocaust ceremony

MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK

WHEN New York commemorates the Holocaust on Sunday, part of the Orthodox community will be absent, refusing to attend a ceremony at a Reform synagogue.

The annual commemoration has become a day of conflict, continuing the fractious pattern that appears to plague virtually all public events in the Jewish community here.

The ceremony, organized by

the Warsaw Ghetto Resistance Organization/American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors, will be held at Temple Emanu-el, the venerable 150-year-old Reform congregation on Fifth Avenue.

Temple Emanu-el had been the site of the commemoration until the last decade. The commemoration, believed to be the largest US gathering of its kind, (Continued on Page 9)

# Netanyahu visits Kiryat Shmona

SARAH HONIG and Tim

KIRYAT Shmona residents warmly received Likud chairman Binyamin Netanyahu on Tuesday afternoon, shaking his hand and wishing him luck in the race for prime minister.

"There is no way to stop terror other than fighting it. It is impossible to attain peace without fighting terror," he said during his visit to the town, where hundreds of residents protested against the government after the Katyusha attacks.

In Tel Aviv, Tsomet chairman Rafael Eitan called for expanding the security zone and closing bridges over the Litani River, saying that Kiryat Shmona residents should not be prisoners to Katyusha attacks.

Meanwhile, the slogan war between Labor and the Likud heated up, with the Likud retaliating for Labor's personal onslaught against Netanyahu.

Earlier in the week, Lahor came out with stickers saying "Israel is too much for Netanyahu." The Likud's response reads "Security is too much for Peres."

As was the case with the Labor sticker, the Likud's reply is being distributed by the party's youth wing.

In an official statement, the Likud argues that "with Shimon Peres as both prime minister and defense minister, there is no defense and no security. The residents of the North have become the hostages of Peres's failed policy. Peres depends on Arafat and Hizbullah to keep Israelis secure. The upshot of this policy is that those in the North are in shelters again."

The Likud's response team, headed by Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, attacked the Labor announcement that in case of a military emergency, Peres will hand his defense portfolio to Foreign Minister Ehud Barak.

This, according to the Likud



Likud chairman Binyamin Netanyahu (center) and Likud candidate and former OC Northern Command Yitzhak Mordechai (right) examine a Kiryat Shmona apartment damaged by a Katyusha rocket Tuesday.

(Avihu Shapiro/Israel Sun)

response team, "is an admission of failure by Labor. If Peres does so well as defense minister, why announce that he will replace himself in the event of a future

crisis? If Barak has better answers to the situation than Peres, why not implement them immediately? If again becomes apparent that instead of addressing the

actual defense problems on the northern border and in the fight against terrorism, Labor and its government have only gimmicks."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### British defense minister to visit

Britain's Defense Secretary Michael Portillo is due here next week for an official visit as the guest of Prime Minister and Defense Minister Shimon Peres.

He will be accompanied by top British Army brass and will also participate in Holocaust Memorial Day commemorations. Portillo will also take the unusual step of meeting with opposition leader Binyamin Netanyahu during his three-day visit.

Arieh O'Sullivan

### UN to review closure

The Security Council, responding to numerous requests for a debate, could meet as early as tomorrow to review the closure of territories. A debate would be the first time the council met to consider Israeli actions since last May, when there was an international uproar over Israel's plan to expropriate 530 dunams (133 acres) in east Jerusalem.

The latest request came yesterday when a group of Arab diplomats, representing Egypt, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, the PLO and the Arab League, asked this month's council president, Juan Samuira of Chile, to convene the council.

Marilyn Henry

### Assad: Meeting with Peres after withdrawal

Syrian President Hafetz Assad, in response to a statement by Prime Minister Shimon Peres that a Syrian-Israeli summit meeting must be held to advance the negotiations, said yesterday that he would meet with Peres only after Israel returns to its 1967 borders.

According to the BBC, Assad was responding to The Jerusalem Post interview with Peres published Tuesday.

Jerusalem Post Staff

## Iran rejects Peres's charge of interference

TEHERAN (Reuters) - An Iranian newspaper on Tuesday rejected accusations by Prime Minister Shimon Peres that Tehran was trying to topple his government and said Iran only opposed Israel through legitimate channels.

*Iran News*, which supports the policies of President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, said Iran would continue to oppose Israel for occupying Arab land and oppressing Palestinians but that its opposition "has never crossed the diplomatic channel."

"And this is the reason why both Israel and its guardian, the United States, could produce no evidence to support their claim that Iran is involved in terrorist

activities," it said. The editorial in the English-language newspaper was the first response in Iran to remarks by Peres published on Monday that Iran was out to topple his government.

Iran and the United States have accused Iran of backing Islamic militant attacks against Israel such as recent suicide bombings by the Hamas group which killed 58 people in Israel.

*Iran News* was also responding to Peres's charge that an Iranian ship loaded with explosives to be used against Jewish and Israeli targets had been intercepted by Belgian authorities in Antwerp.

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# Turkey to recall 'spy' diplomats from Iran

TEHERAN - Iran yesterday asked Turkey to recall four Turkish diplomats Tehran accused of spying in the latest round of a tit-for-tat row between the two neighbors.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Mahmoud Mohammadi told state-run Teheran radio: "These four diplomats were in charge of leading a spy network in Iranian cities and their behavior was against diplomatic norms."

"The Turkish government must recall these four diplomats to Turkey," Mohammadi said.

Iran said it had broken up Turkish spy networks in the northwest of the country led by Turkish diplomats, four of whom it named as attaches at Turkey's embassy in Teheran and at the consulates in Orumiyyeh and Tabriz.

Turkey yesterday denied the charge.

Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman Omer Akbel said the diplomats were accused of spying after Ankara asked Teheran to withdraw four Iranian diplomats in Turkey accused of links to the killings of Iranian exiles.

Shi'ite Moslem Iranians and Sunni Turks have been regional rivals for centuries but the Iranian Islamic republic and NATO-member, secular Turkey have remained on reasonably good terms in recent years.

A number of incidents, however, have strained relations.

In February, Turkey accused Iran and Syria of dodging questions about their possible role in sending arms Ankara said were destined for Kurdish rebels in Turkey.

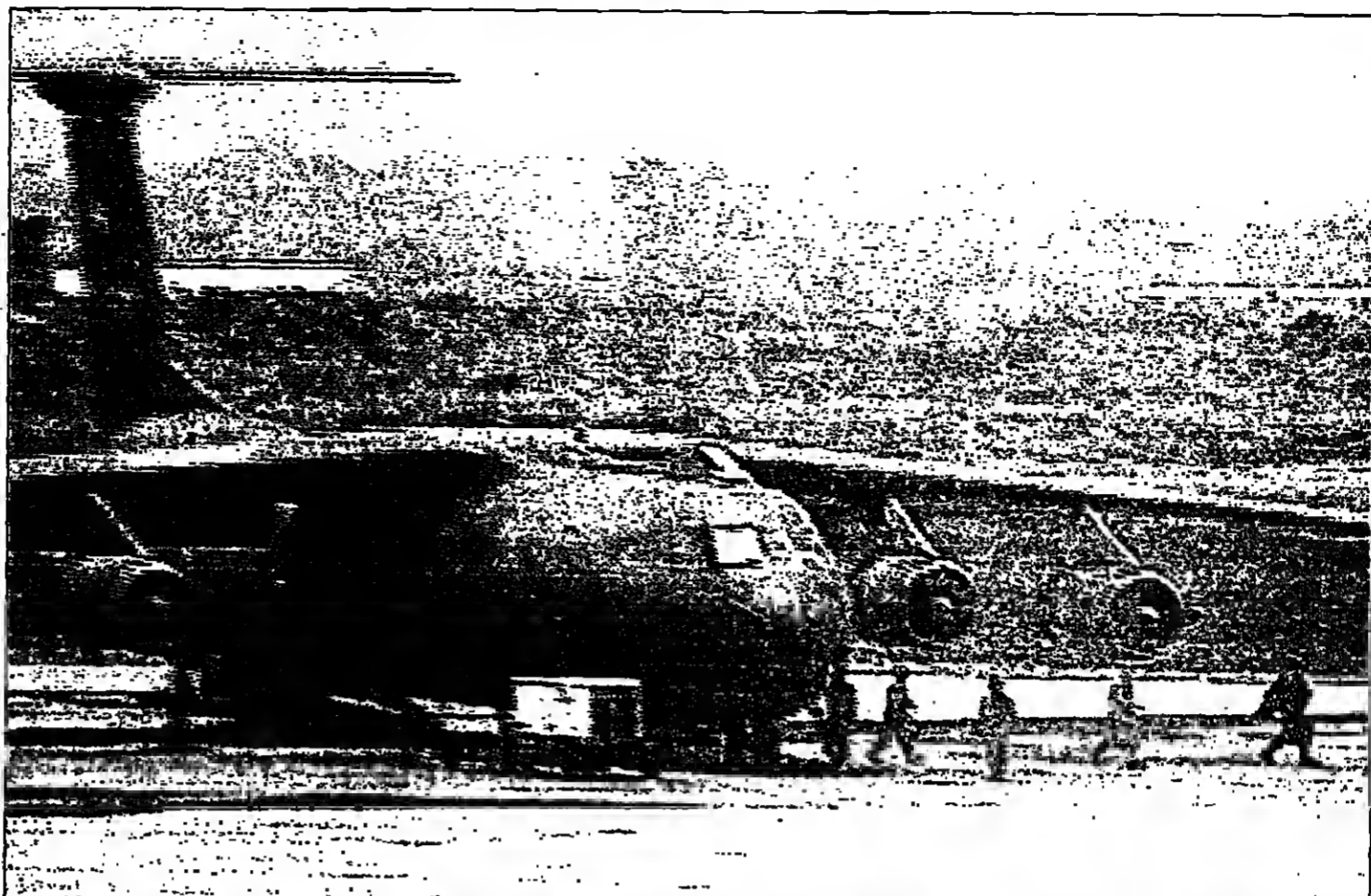
A week later Teheran protested to Ankara over allowing an Iranian opposition group to hold a demonstration in Turkey and hundreds took part in an anti-Turkish rally in Teheran.

Relations were further damaged last month when Turkish police said that a Turkish Islamist hitman, who confessed to killing two Iranian dissidents in Turkey in 1992, had received training in Iran. Iran denied the accusation.

On Monday, visiting Turkish Foreign Ministry assistant under-secretary Ali Tugyan assured Iran that a military agreement Turkey signed in February with Israel did not involve opening Turkish bases and airspace to the Israeli air force, after Iran objected to the accord.

But Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati told Tugyan: "Iran is concerned over providing any facility to the Zionist regime (Israel) on the grounds that such concessions are against the vital interests of the Islamic world and the region," the Iranian news agency IRNA said.

Iranian newspapers yesterday blasted Ankara for signing the accord, saying it meant Turkey was siding with Israel.



A Galaxy transport plane awaits departure from Dakar airport in Senegal as the US Air Force steps up its evacuation efforts from Monrovia, Liberia.

# US evacuates from Monrovia amid fragile Liberian cease-fire

TANKS from a West African peacekeeping force patrolled parts of Monrovia yesterday after Liberia's warring factions reached a cease-fire to end four days of fighting and looting. Hundreds of civilians defied sporadic shooting and prowling gunmen to try to reach home.

Despite the cease-fire, US helicopters evacuated dozens of Americans and other foreigners from Monrovia. A team of 18 US Navy SEAL commandos was flown to Liberia to reinforce security at the US Embassy.

The UN envoy to Liberia, Anthony B. Nykly, said the cease-fire was reached between government troops and rebels who have been holding hundreds of Liberians, Lebanese and other foreign civilians hostage to a military base in the capital.

But many Americans have not been evacuated because they have been unable to reach the embassy due to fighting, the State Department said yesterday.

Spokesman Nicholas Burns said US military helicopters had airlifted 168 people from Monrovia, of whom 54 were Americans. He said he did not know how many of the estimated 420 other Americans in Liberia wanted to leave but many had had "trouble getting to the embassy compound...because of the fighting."

Burns said there were no plans for elite US Navy forces, who arrived in Monrovia on Tuesday, to go into the city and help Americans get to the embassy, where US military helicopters are loading evacuees for flights to Freetown, Sierra Leone and Dakar, Senegal.

US citizens are being given priority in the evacuation - which is voluntary - but other foreigners are also being airlifted out if space is available, Burns said.

News agencies  
MONROVIA

Despite the fragile truce, Burns said US diplomats in Monrovia described the situation as "very difficult...tense...chaotic." He said they heard gunfire and reported they could not judge if the cease-fire would hold.

Burns said that once all Americans who wanted to leave Liberia were accommodated, the United States would decide whether to close its embassy.

Civilians in the city center barracks where fugitive warlord Roosevelt Johnson was holed up with fighters of his Krahn tribe said they were free to leave but afraid to venture out.

They said about 30 West African peacekeepers held hostage had been freed but 36 Lebanese civilians had not.

The BBC, quoting an official from the peacekeeping force, ECOMOG, said the rival factions agreed to disengage their forces with the peacekeepers acting as a buffer. It said the rebels have begun releasing some of the peacekeepers they were holding.

Paul Koulen, an official with the UN Development Program, said tanks from the peacekeeping force were moving into the Mamba Point neighborhood, where foreign embassies and the UN offices are located.

"I have just seen the tanks move into town so I can only surmise that there really is a cease-fire," Koulen said. "There have been reports of violations so far, but nothing major."

Under the cease-fire agreement, Johnson agreed to release several hundred civilians and a number of peacekeepers held hostage by his

forces.

"People want to leave but they are still concerned about their personal safety outside the barracks," said Mark Johnson, one of several thousand civilians inside.

Witnesses said hundreds of the 15,000 people sheltering in a US embassy annex left, dodging gunmen, saying if they had to die they wanted to die at home.

Intensive negotiations took place among the peacekeepers, faction leaders and members of the ruling council of state to build on the cease-fire agreement.

"There is an intensified effort on the ground involving members of the government, various prominent leaders to try to find a political solution," one source close to the peace effort said.

The peacekeepers prepared to meet Johnson to offer protection pending talks to resolve the crisis, which stoked fears of a return to all-out civil war between rival ethnic factions.

Fighting and looting began on Saturday with a stand-off between supporters of Johnson and the ruling council of state, which sacked him as rural development minister and ordered his arrest for murder after a clash with militia rivals.

Diplomats said 320 Americans and other foreign nationals were in the main US embassy compound. Diplomats said many more were trapped by fighting in other parts of town.

Washington, which was sending in security troops to beef up protection of its nationals, pressed on with its airlift.

"The operation will continue until everyone is brought out," US Navy Commander Boh Anderson said in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

# Bosnian Serbs say aid invitation 'unacceptable'

News agencies  
PALE, Bosnia

BOSNIAN Serbs yesterday refused to attend a postwar reconstruction conference in Brussels as part of an overall Bosnian delegation and demanded separate representation.

Rajko Kasagic, prime minister of the Bosnian Serb Republic, told Carl Bildt, the international high representative for Bosnia, that his invitation to attend the conference was "unacceptable."

The conference, to drum-up international aid to rebuild Bosnia after 43 months of war between its Moslem, Croat and Serb communities, starts tomorrow whether the Serbs go or not.

Kasagic told Bildt in a letter that was faxed to the media that under the Bosnian peace agreement no joint bodies would exist in Bosnia until after elections which are due later this year.

"If (Bosnian Serb government) representatives are to travel to Brussels, we ask for separate representation and equal treatment with the (Moslem-Croat) Federation," he added.

Diplomats said the response was part of the Bosnian Serbs' campaign to force the international community to treat them as a sovereign state. The Bosnian Serb government said it wanted to be provided with a plane to fly its delegation from the northern city of Banja Luka. REUTERS 101709 GMT apr 96

Meanwhile Serbian officials removed 13 Moslem men from buses that were to return them to Bosnia yesterday, drawing an angry pro-

test from the UN refugee agency. "This is totally unacceptable," said Rob Redmond, spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Geneva. "These people are refugees."

He said the agency filed a written protest with Belgrade demanding the men's immediate release.

Randolph Ryan, a UNHCR spokesman in Sarajevo, said the men were prevented from getting on buses in Sijevnica, a Serbian town where the Moslems had been held in two camps since last fall.

Redmond and Ryan said the Serbian officials who took the men away said they wanted to investigate them for war crimes.

"Unless we were to be told by the war crimes tribunal in The Hague that there was a warrant for these men, we have no reason whatsoever to suspect them of anything," said Redmond. "They are refugees pure and simple."

They were among 796 men who escaped last summer from the Moslem enclaves of Zepa and Srebrenica before they fell to Bosnian Serbs.

About 200 other Moslem men on the buses were allowed to go to Tuzla, returning to territory controlled by the Bosnian government for the first time since their escape.

The men went to Serbia because they thought it too dangerous to cross Bosnian Serb-held territory during the Bosnian war. Both Zepa and Srebrenica are in eastern Bosnia, close to the border with Serbia.

# Explosion rips through two cars in Kiev

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) - An explosion destroyed two cars in central Kiev yesterday after a man found a cylinder of TNT on the ground and tossed it aside thinking it was trash.

The man was sitting in his car when he saw a group of suspicious-looking people clustered around a jeep nearby, said Vadim Kurchenko, spokesman for the Interior Ministry.

When the man got out of his car to ask what they were doing, the group fled, leaving behind a container on the ground.

The man picked it up and tossed it down the street, where it exploded, destroying two cars nearby, Kurchenko said. Police determined that it contained TNT.

An investigation is under way. Kiev sees a substantial amount of crime, though such explosions are rare.

# Kaczynski links to Unabomber victims sought

WASHINGTON (AP) - Theodore Kaczynski may have crossed paths with four of the Unabomber's victims, investigators believe, and they are searching to see if he had contact with others.

Handwritten notebooks and some printed material found in Kaczynski's remote cabin near Lincoln, Montana, mention some of the victims but also include references to many other individuals and organizations, said a federal law enforcement official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

None of the references specifically mentions Unabomber victims as targets, the official said. "The idea that there is a list of victims or targets is not correct," he said. "Three people were killed and 23 others injured in bombings attributed to the Unabomber, starting in 1978. Federal authorities coined 'Unabomber' because universities often were targeted."

In another development, The New York Times reported yesterday that Kaczynski carried on a

seven-year correspondence with a Mexican farmhand, Juan Sanchez, whom he had never met. In about 50 letters handwritten in Spanish, Kaczynski told Sanchez he was so poor, he saved off hunger by hunting rabbits and treated a cut foot without going to the doctor.

Kaczynski began writing Sanchez after his brother, David Kaczynski, met the farmworker in the early 1980s while buying property in the Chalk Mountains of West Texas.

The suspect, a 53-year-old former university mathematics professor who began living a hermit's life a quarter-century ago, was taken into custody last week as FBI and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agents searched his cabin. He has been charged with possessing bomb components but not with any of the 16 Unabomber attacks.

Federal agents scouring the Unabomber's suspected haunts and target sites nationwide have turned up evidence that Kaczynski

may have had casual contact with four Unabomber victims, another federal law enforcement source said.

These are the possible contacts: Pat Fisher, a Vanderbilt University computer science professor wounded by a 1982 mail bomb, said he attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology when Kaczynski was at Harvard University, and said he took a class at Harvard. Both schools are in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

"We could have been in the same class," Fisher said. "I think he knew who I was."

The connection continued when Kaczynski went to graduate school at the University of Michigan's mathematics department. Fisher frequently visited his father, who worked in that department.

James McConnell, injured in a 1985 Unabomber attack, was a University of Michigan psychology professor in the mid-1960s, when Kaczynski was there.

Hugh Scrutton, killed in 1985 by a bomb at the computer store he owned in Sacramento, California, took math classes at the University of California, Berkeley, during the summer of 1967. That was the year Kaczynski began teaching in that department, although he didn't teach Scrutton's course.

United Air Lines President Percy Wood, wounded in a 1980 mail bombing, was a member of the San Francisco Bay Area Air Pollution Control Board advisory council from 1967 to 1969, the years Kaczynski taught at Berkeley.

Wood told The Oakland Tribune he didn't remember Kaczynski or any environment controversies that might have attracted the Unabomber's attention.

Meantime, officials were growing more and more confident that they will be able to make a case that Kaczynski is the Unabomber, even as one official warned that it would take weeks to complete their methodical investigation.

# Danish court acquits Egyptians of terror charges

AARHUS, Denmark (Reuters) - Three Egyptians accused of planting bomb attacks on various locations in Copenhagen three years ago were acquitted of terror charges by a Danish court yesterday after a six-week trial.

All three were found guilty of lesser charges, an unrelated arson attack. The judge is due to pronounce sentence today.

The prosecution claimed the men, two of them alleged to be linked to a group connected to the 1993 New York World Trade Center blast, planned to bomb Copenhagen railway stations, a bridge, the Israeli embassy and a Jewish cemetery.

Police said Mohamed Fahim, 42, Abdel-Hakem Soliman, 38, and Mohamed Hassanein, 32, bought chemicals for bomb-making, had maps and plans of targets and possessed US addresses and phone numbers linking them to Islamic group Gama'a al-Islamiya.

The organization has carried out bomb attacks in Egypt and four men with links to the same group were convicted in New York on charges connected with the World Trade Center blast, which killed six people and injured over 1,000.

The three defendants, all Danish residents, denied the charges, saying they planned to open a chemical export business to Egypt and had lists of bomb ingredients so they would not inadvertently send materials that could be used to make illegal explosives.

They were arrested in the Danish port of Aarhus in November 1993 and were held in custody until April 1994, when a court ordered them freed while police completed their investigation.

They were formally charged in July 1995 and their trial opened at Aarhus High Court on February 28 after delays caused by the absence of Hassanein, said by his lawyer to be mentally ill.

# Dunblane gym demolished

DUNBLANE, Scotland (Reuters) - Workers yesterday began demolishing the Scottish school gym where a crazed misfit killed 16 children and their teacher before committing suicide.

The bullet-riddled gym, being pulled down at the request of grieving parents, will be replaced by a flower garden.

The demolition is expected to take two days. The children return after their Easter holiday break next week.

Police threw a cordon around the gym and the council asked the media to stay away.

"The families have suffered greatly and every effort should be made to respect their privacy," a council statement said.

British Prime Minister John Major, clearly shaken when he visited the school after the March 13 shooting, supported the decision to demolish the gym and offered government funds.

A Scottish judge is investigating why Thomas Hamilton, a grudge-bearing outcast who used four handguns, had been multiple firearms licenses.

Hamilton, a 43-year-old bachelor obsessed with young boys and guns, killed more than half of the class of 29 children and their teacher before shooting himself.

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The Cambridge Illustrated History of BRITISH THEATRE by Simon Trussler Lavishly illustrated in the best tradition of the Cambridge University Press, this 404 pp. volume presents a social and cultural history of Britain as much as a description of actors, directors, designers and authors. From the early Middle Ages to contemporary times and themes, the author describes early forms of drama and religious ceremony and weaves the history of social and political forces which shaped theatre. Selected contents include: The Era of the Outdoor Playhouses; The Restoration Theatre; Romance and Realism; The War and The Long Weekend; Theatre and the Marketplace. Hardcover; color and black-and-white prints, photographs, sketches, playbills; Chronology; Glossary; Who's Who; Select Bibliography; Index. JP Price: NIS 191, incl. VAT, postage and handling (in Israel) Door-to-door delivery (where available): NIS 199. To: Books, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000. Please send me the Cambridge Illustrated History of British Theatre. Enclosed is my check payable to The Jerusalem Post, or credit card details: Visa, Isra/MCD, Diners, AmEx. CC No. Address. Name. Code. ID No. City. Signature. Tel/Fax(day). Please list gift recipients' names and addresses separately.

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## By-election vote could cut Major's majority to one

LONDON (Reuters) - Prime Minister John Major's parliamentary majority looks like being cut to just one seat today in a by-election which has prompted fresh speculation that he may be forced to call an early general election.

But Major's Conservatives hope the result in the south-east Staffordshire constituency, in central England, will prove their electoral plight is less gloomy than indicated by national opinion polls which put them 30 points behind the opposition Labor Party.

The by-election has been caused by the death last year of Conservative MP David Lightbown, who won the seat at the 1992 general election with a moderate 7,192 vote majority.

But the only opinion poll to have been taken in the seat showed Labor candidate Brian Jenkins sweeping this lead away and attracting the support of more than half the voters.

Conservative campaign manager Alan Duncan has admitted the party's interviewing of electors indicates it is behind Labor, although he says only by some five percentage points.

"A Labor win on Thursday will show there are no no-go areas for New Labor. The Tories know this. They are terrified of losing this seat," Labor leader Tony Blair told a meeting in the constituency last night.

Blair habitually refers to his party as "New Labor" to emphasize that it has shed many of its traditional socialist policy stances.

The Conservatives have not won a parliamentary by-election since 1989. Since the last general election they have suffered some spectacular losses to Labor, the authority opposition Liberal Democrats and the Scottish Nationalists.

These, plus three defections by Conservative legislators to other parties, have cut Major's majority from 21 in 1992 to just two currently. A victory by Jenkins today would reduce it to one.

But if Major's party is defeated only narrowly, it could claim the result as an improvement in its fortunes.

If Labor's majority is below 7,000 votes, it will be "glee for Major, gloom for Blair", said election expert Peter Kellner.

"The swing to Labor would be back to familiar by-election levels. The Tories (Conservatives) have been here before, and lived to fight, and win, another day," he wrote in the Evening Standard newspaper.

The Conservatives insist that as a general election approaches - one must be held by May next year - the mood of the electorate is moving back towards them. They reject speculation that parliamentary weakness will force them to call the ballot early.

Their south-east Staffordshire candidate Jimmy James says he has not found resentment against the party as he has canvassed from door to door for votes.

The Conservatives are trying to shrug off past misfortunes, such as sleaze scandals, internal rows over Europe and tax rises, and to emphasize the new buoyancy of the British economy.



South Korean Prime Minister Lee Soo-sung receives a briefing from a military commander on the security situation in South Korea's far-west island of Baekryung yesterday. Lee's visit to the closest Southern islet to North Korea comes after recent incursions by soldiers from the North into the demilitarized zone which separates the two countries. (Reuters)

## S. Korea in crisis mood on eve of polls

ANDREW BROWNE  
SEOUL

SOUTH Korean officials whipped up a crisis mood yesterday, the eve of elections, warning of everything from a North Korean naval blockade to border shootings.

A Defense Ministry official, referring to recent Communist troop incursions, compared the situation to the dark days of the Cold War 20 years ago when Northern border guards axed two US army officers to death.

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Vitaly Ignatenko arrived in Pyongyang to try to defuse the heightened tensions. His visit coincided with a fresh warning from UN aid officials of a worsening food shortage in the impoverished North.

In Tokyo, a visiting North Korean delegation made an urgent appeal to Japan for a third emergency consignment of rice to help it cope with the disastrous shortfall caused by the floods which destroyed last year's grain crop.

The Russian envoy was to sound out North Korean leaders on Moscow's suggestion for an international conference to build up trust on the divided peninsula.

Rhetoric between the two Koreas has spiralled since Pyongyang signalled its contempt for a truce that ended the 1950-53 Korean War by sending heavily-armed troops into the Panmunjom border crossing area.

Three incursions into a neutral buffer zone starting on Friday are seen as scare tactics to

persuade Washington to sign a bilateral peace treaty, shutting out Seoul.

"There's great potential of North Korea escalating provocations," Assistant Defense Minister Park Yong-ok told a news conference yesterday.

"North Korea's top leaders have repeatedly said war is inevitable," Park said. "They said the question is not whether or not there will be war on the Korean peninsula, but when."

"This is why we take recent North Korean actions so seriously and consider the present situation a real crisis."

Park compared the current situation to August 1976 following the Panmunjom axe murders. Tension peaked when the United States sent the carrier Midway and five other warships to Korea's east coast. North Korea's then leader, Kim Il-sung, apologised.

Park said Pyongyang's next moves could include provoking border shooting incidents or blockading islands off the western coast of the Korean peninsula.

"We take the war threat very seriously," Park said. "They are ready for action any time."

The main opposition party turned up the

heat ahead of today's elections, saying the government was partly to blame for North Korean troop incursions.

"The responsibility for the North Korean incident rests firstly on the North, but it is also the fault of our government, which has changed its policies on the north 16 times in three years," said Chyung Dai-gul of the National Congress for New Politics.

Defying teargas, thousands of marching students also denounced the government after the long-delayed funeral of a colleague who died in a protest. They demanded the resignation of President Kim Young-sam.

South Koreans vote today for 253 of the 299 National Assembly seats. The other 46 seats will be filled through a proportional representation system.

Many officials of President Kim's ruling New Korea Party have admitted they expect a major setback and the party could lose its absolute majority.

North Korea's official news agency said yesterday, meanwhile, that students were volunteering to join the Korean People's Army. They wanted to serve the country "with rifles in their hands instead of pens".

The Korean Central News Agency report said young people "seethe with the surging hatred for the enemy and stamina to annihilate it". (Reuters)

## Grieving US bids farewell to Ron Brown

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - A grief-stricken US capital yesterday prepared a hero's farewell for Commerce Secretary Ron Brown, whose death in a Balkan crash robbed the US of a major black political leader and President Bill Clinton of a friend and ally.

Clinton was to eulogize Brown at a memorial service at Washington National Cathedral, in the capital where he was known as a genial, stylish power-player in Democratic party politics and steward of an assertive US world trade policy.

"It will be personal and I'll leave it to the president to address it," White House spokesman Mike McCurry said when asked to preview Clinton's farewell to the first US Cabinet member to die in the line of duty in more than 150 years.

Brown and 32 other Americans were killed last Wednesday when their military passenger jet slammed into a mountain ridge while trying to land in Dubrovnik, Croatia, in gusty winds and blinding rain.

The group, which included a dozen US business leaders, was in the war-shattered former Yugoslavia to explore opportunities for investment in reconstruction projects.

Rev. Nathan Baxter, dean of the cathedral, was to conduct the service and Brown's son, Michael,

and Eastman Kodak chief George Fisher were also to speak.

After the early afternoon memorial, a funeral procession would symbolically retrace Brown's life by wending its way through a black urban neighborhood and the heart of official Washington before reaching Arlington National Cemetery.

With full military honors including a 19-gun salute and a sobbing trumpet sounding "Taps," Brown, who was a US Army captain in the 1960s, was to be buried where many of America's most illustrious citizens lie at rest.

His funeral, a tribute of the type ordinarily reserved for US presidents and war heroes, followed a day of mourning during which Brown's closed, flag-draped casket lay in state in the lobby of the Commerce Department.

Photos of the other Commerce Department officials killed in the crash were set up on a table near Brown's coffin, along with condolence books for signing. Flower memorials were in the corners of the lobby.

People who came to pay their respects waited in a line that wrapped around the corner of the building the size of a city block.

"I just felt like I needed to come ... He was a very important man, a good role model," said Wanda Thomas of Maryland, who was on her lunch break.

## Ex-girlfriend of tobacco executive turns over documents to lawyers

RICHMOND, Virginia (AP) - The ex-girlfriend of a retired Philip Morris USA executive has given boxes of his papers to lawyers suing seven of the US's largest tobacco companies about nicotine levels in cigarettes.

Harriet "Hatsy" Heep told ABC News that Ronald A. Tamol, the company's director of research and brands development until 1993, stored more than 70 boxes of documents at her house. When she and Tamol broke up a few weeks ago, she said, he removed most of the documents.

Ms. Heep turned over the remaining eight boxes to the lawyers handling a massive federal class-action lawsuit brought against the tobacco companies.

Among the documents she turned over, according to reports broadcast by both NBC Nightly News and ABC's World News

Tonight, was a 1965 handwritten memo stating the need to "determine the minimum nicotine drop to keep normal smokers hooked." It was stamped "R.A. Tamol."

Philip Morris denounced the reports as being the result of a "bizarre stunt" pulled by the lawyers pursuing the class action.

Requests to see the documents have been denied, the company said in a statement issued by its New York headquarters.

"As a result, we cannot ... even verify whether the documents are authentic," the statement said.

Meanwhile, the Richmond Times-Dispatch reported yesterday that FBI agents visited four Richmond area homes to ask questions and look for documents as part of a federal probe into conduct by tobacco executives.

## The New World's shores, a new world order?

CALVIN WOODWARD  
WASHINGTON

DESPITE the recent rise in concern about immigration, the US is still a nation of immigrants, even at the highest levels.

Washington is thick with accents, names unpronounceable for most American tongues and people of American visage but foreign vintage.

Pat Buchanan's fading Republican presidential campaign and a congressional debate over immigration highlight charges that foreigners are taking American jobs. Indeed.

The nation's top soldier, Gen. John Shalikashvili, came from Poland and learned English watching John Wayne movies as a youth in Peoria, Illinois.

As chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, he replaced Colin Powell, son of immigrants from Jamaica, who has been touted as a potential presidential candidate.

OK, so Powell was born in Harlem and grew up in the New York City borough of the Bronx. But visiting his parents' homeland to pick up an honorary degree, he

said, "I consider myself a Jamaican."

When the three North American government transportation chiefs met in Washington some time ago, the only Anglo name among them was Doug Young, plain and simple. But he was the Canadian, and he did half his talking in French.

US Transportation Secretary Federico Pena spoke partly in Spanish and reporters scrambled for translation devices.

People who want to avoid that confusion in domestic affairs can turn to US English, a group promoting English as the official language. Its leader: Mauro Mijca, an immigrant from Chile.

Estan en todas partes - They're everywhere.

Quick - Can you say Zbigniew Brzezinski? Like many kids, he once wanted to be president. Of Poland. The Warsaw native went on to become President Jimmy Carter's national security adviser.

Buchanan wants a five-year immigration moratorium, calls illegal immigration

"an invasion" and has been making fun of German-born Henry Kissinger's accent. The former secretary of state has risen to the status of Washington icon.

Still, the Irish-American Buchanan acknowledges that this is a nation of immigrants.

President Bill Clinton, still speaking in tones of his native Arkansas, and his Republican challenger in the November election, Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, his voice as flat as the Kansas plains, both favor modest cuts in legal immigration.

But the House of Representatives opted not to reduce legal immigration for now. Instead, it voted for a crackdown on illegal aliens.

The Senate is expected to vote in a few weeks on a bill supporters say would cut non-refugee immigrant admissions to

552,000 from 675,000.

It's a debate one senator might have wished had taken place in another century.

"Some say we had a bad immigration policy 400 years ago," said Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell of Colorado, the only Native American in the Senate.

Campbell, of the northern Cheyenne tribe, recalled debating a man who argued that people who don't speak English in the United States should go back home.

"I said, 'Hey, listen, buddy, I track my ancestry for 20,000 years. Where do you want me to go?'"

From the aboriginal vantage point, practically everyone is a foreigner.

Not just Housing Secretary Henry Cisneros (Mexico, third generation) or Health Secretary Donna Shalala (Lebanon, third generation).

Or distant Italian Senator Alfonse D'Amato or, from Irish blood, Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, not to mention Pres-

idents John F. Kennedy and Ronald Reagan.

Among those outside politics, but watching the politicians, the same pattern holds.

British editors run *The New Yorker* and *The New Republic* magazines. Canadians run *US News and World Report* and *Vanity Fair*. And on national TV, ABC News anchor Peter Jennings is just the tip of an iceberg from the Great White North.

The satirical *Spy* magazine once warned that Canadians are truly insidious because they blend in "like the pod people in *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*, virtually impossible to identify as they take control."

The magazine didn't tell readers that its editor at the time was Canadian himself. But it said there was one way to spot Canadians.

They are so relentlessly polite, they even thank their automatic bank cash machines. (AP)

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# Fashion houses descend on Israel

FLAIR  
GREER FAY CASHMAN

**T**HE plethora of international fashion labels descending on Israel has put our own designers and fashion houses slightly in the shade.

No one has to travel abroad any more to buy Kenzo, Chantal Thomas, Karl Lagerfeld, Isaac Mizrahi, Christian Lacroix or Giorgio Armani. Come September, Gap and its Banana Republic subsidiary will also be available here.

The onslaught is so great that it provokes fears that "Made in Israel" is going out of style. But happily Gortex, Gideon Oberson, Hagara, Gershon Bram, Yuval Ravid, Dorin Frankfurt, Jerry Melitz, Dorit Sadeh and a host of other local talents are still in business and doing well.

Not only that, but Niba, one of the most veteran Israeli clothing companies, founded long before the establishment of the state, is exporting millions of dollars' worth of Israeli fashion, primarily to Europe.

Niba is also holding its own on the domestic market, though its image has changed over the years from solidly conservative to youthfully buoyant.

In the current collection, the image is largely dependent on buttons. Vests, jackets, skirts, blouses and dresses are nearly all button-through and the extent to which they are buttoned or unbuttoned runs the gamut from prim to provocative.

It's amazing how many changes can be incorporated into a single garment through the gradual unfastening of buttons. That probably explains why strip shows have retained their fascination for red-blooded men.

Niba's no-frills fashions, with many mix-and-match options, are geared primarily to businesswomen in the 25-55 age groups, though most of the garments, because of their very simplicity, would look good on both younger and older women.

With tailored jackets, semi-tailored vests, ladylike blouses, tailored pants and slender silhouette dresses, Niba has created a long, lean look, but has been careful to make the cut comfortable rather than tight.

Sporty jackets are priced from NIS 159 to NIS 300. Tailored jackets are slightly more expensive, starting at NIS 249 and moving up to NIS 499. Pants and skirts are selling for NIS 109 to NIS 249, dresses for NIS 129 to NIS 169, blouses from NIS 79 to NIS 198 and vests from NIS 169 to NIS 219.



Niba's no-frills fashions, with many mix-and-match options, are geared primarily to businesswomen.

Judicious buying could result in a multi-option set of color coordinates for less than NIS 1,000, which is not bad for a whole new summer wardrobe. Classicists will find that they can do almost as well with Optimum, Hamashbir's own private label. The vast majority of Optimum garments are fully lined, and thus retain their shape better.

# Holocaust survivors deserve just compensation

CAVEAT EMPTORI!  
RUTHIE BLUM

**H**OLOCAUST Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day will be commemorated next week with deserved reverence. Let us hope that the Finance Ministry upholds its pledge to the High Court of Justice to increase unduly low reparation payments to survivors.

According to the 1952 reparations agreement between Israel and Germany, the former received a sum of money from the latter with which to "compensate" survivors living in Israel as of October 31, 1953.

Under the conditions of this agreement, survivors receiving reparations via the Israeli government waived the right to sue Germany in the future. Survivors arriving in Israel subsequent to the cut-off date were not subject to the above conditions, and many sued the German government directly.

Unjustly, those survivors not bound by the terms of the agreement have continued to receive monthly payments three times greater than those of their counterparts dependent on Israel's allotment of German money for the same purpose.

Feeling cheated, a group of these survivors, together with MK Avraham Hershkov (Likud), petitioned the High Court of Justice for a raise in reparation payments. On January 29 this year, the court handed down a "strong recommendation" to the Treasury to increase monthly payments to these victims of Nazism whose right to sue Germany had been waived.

As yet, no increase has been made. The Finance Ministry spokesman's office assures that "the Treasury will honor the court's recommendation," claiming that "meetings are being held at this time to determine how to put the pay increase into effect."

But given the advanced age of the survivors, every bureaucratic delay in effecting the pay increase is critical. "Many have died in the two months since the decision," says R.H., a survivor whose complaint against the government for "stealing" money owed to victims extends beyond "meager reparations."

A widow with no income other than a portion of her late husband's pension from the National Insurance Institute, R.H. feels that Finance Ministry policy regarding supplementary income to "needy" survivors is discriminatory.

According to an amendment in the Nazi Persecution Act, survivors with a 25 to 49.9 percent disability (R.H. is diagnosed as 26 percent) who cannot support themselves due to age or illness are eligible to request a supplement to their regular reparation payments.

The amount of the supplement is determined on the basis of an applicant's total income. Every form of income is taken into account during the "income examination" — except for that of a living spouse.

R.H. and a married friend of hers — also a survivor — both applied to receive the above supplement. Each was granted it, though R.H. was awarded a much lower sum than her friend.

It turned out that her late husband's pension was taken into account towards calculating her supplement. Ironically, had her husband still been alive, she probably would have received a greater addition to her regular reparation payments.

Enraged, R.H. wrote to Knesset members and to the Finance Ministry to protest. The response she received from Rafi Pinto, Finance Ministry director of the Department for Rehabilitation of

the Disabled, may serve to clarify the law for other survivors who feel short-changed by the government:

"Working together to amend the Nazi Persecution Act... were the Finance Minister and members of his staff, as well as members of organizations for the disabled and members of Knesset, who were aware of the fact that the supplement would be given following an examination of income."

"A large majority of the disabled population gratefully accepted the amendments which were made in the law, evidence of which lies in the thousands of applications which we have been receiving daily."

"Furthermore, the system of indirect rewards — in the form of various benefits, such as exemption from TV licence fees, a discount in municipal taxes, and a refund in purchase tax and VAT for many products — is given automatically, and increases the sum of monthly compensation paid to survivors receiving reparations from the State of Israel."

"In no way does the requirement of an examination of income intend to penalize or discriminate..."

Perhaps the imminent increase in the "regular" payments will help R.H. to make ends meet. However, many survivors are doubtful that the raise will amount to much.

Victims of Nazism interested in forming a lobby group to protest government policies are invited to contact The Israel Self Help Center; phone: (03) 629-9389 (ask for Ruti Belkin, consultant, or Martha Ramon, Director).

You are invited to offer personal stories about goods and services in this country. Write to: Ruthie Blum, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem.

# Children can learn to share

PARENTING  
RUTH MASON

**O**FTEEN, when we get together with friends of ours, their son, who is two and a half, will take away the toy with which my four-year-old is playing. My friends pool-pool my child's protests.

They say things like, "Oh, he won't take it home." When I say, "You should check first with my son before letting your child take away his toy," they say, "Oh, come on, he's just a kid." I feel angry at them for making my child feel selfish or like a "bad boy" for not wanting to share his toys. How do I handle this?

Judy Baumgold, family and couples therapist at Shiluv Institute, replies:

There are two issues here: 1. What to do when two children fight over the same toy; and 2. What to do when friends disagree about how to handle conflict between their respective children.

There are several approaches you can take when your child is in conflict with another child over a toy. 1. You can take the toy away. 2. You can try to help the children resolve it with their own ideas. 3. You can suggest that they take turns playing with the toy. 4. You can use a reflective approach advocated by the late Hungarian pediatrician Dr. Emmi Pikler and say, "David, I see you want that truck. Jonathan, you want it too." Then step back and see what the children do. You can stay nearby so they feel your support and in case anyone is about to get hurt. But generally, young children have far more resources to solve their own problems than we give them credit for and allowing them to do so is excellent practice for life.

Regarding the second issue, it sounds like it's more of an issue between the parents. I would suggest that you sit down with this other couple when the children are not around and talk about your feelings and your different approaches or understandings of the situation. It sounds like each parent is defending his child. Obviously the parents of the younger child are assuming that the older child is old enough to understand and that's not fair to the older child. But he's not so old. Some four-year-olds just are not ready to share.

If you find you cannot resolve the issue through discussion, and it continues to disturb you and your child when the two families are together, I would suggest seeing your friends in the evening without the children and limiting contact between the children.

If you have a question about parenting, write to: Parenting, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000

# Former yuppies seek good life on high seas

**A**FTER dark, when the moonlight dances on the wave tops, Tom and Mel Neale can see the constellations as the ancients saw them, brilliant against a sky clear of smog or dust.

"He used to be a lawyer, she a schoolteacher, navigating their way through 9-to-5 jobs, career ladders and commutes. That was 17 years ago. Then they headed off to sea on their 47-foot yacht.

Since then, they have been living their dream, drifting lazily aboard *Chez Nous* between the East Coast and the Bahamas. The yacht is the only home their two daughters, now teenagers, have ever known.

"This may sound corny to you," said Tom Neale, "but out here we can feel God breathing." The Neales simply find life on a sailboat more satisfying than staying ashore. So do others — especially baby-boom families — who are taking to the seas in increasing numbers despite the risks and sacrifices.

For some, cruising aboard a sailboat for years can offer a rugged reality more evocative of a trek across the prairie in a Conestoga wagon than an extended stay at Club Med. Life is frequently reduced to the basics: food, water and staying afloat.

There are times when the sky goes black, lightning crackles near the mast, and the sea turns savage. Safe harbor is still miles away, and the howling wind carries the unmistakable roar of the surf lashing a rocky shore.

And there's no one else to turn to for help.

The risks of live-aboard sailing were vividly illustrated by a recent rash of mishaps involving American yachts, including one that was rammed and sunk November 24 off New Zealand, killing two Southern California children and their father.

Nonetheless, this winter about 10,000 live-aboard yachts were

bobbing along, many with no particular place to go and in no particular hurry to get there, said Jimmy Cornell, a London-based sailor who writes often about the sea.

"Ten years ago, the number was about 6,000 yachts. Cornell, who calls often at marinas worldwide, said a precise figure is impossible because the cruising population is, by definition, transient.

In the fall, there's a dash of sorts from San Diego to Cabo San Lucas and points south; in the spring, from Puerto Vallarta to Hawaii and the South Seas.

Generally, however, most yachts putter about the Sea of Cortez or the Caribbean. Some are gone for a year, some for five, some for the duration.

And, increasingly, children are along for the ride. Perhaps one in four yachts now carries parents and children, said John Riise, managing editor of *Latitude 38*, a magazine devoted to live-aboard sailing.

Cruising parents typically want a shared adventure and a full dose of family values. Aboard *Chez Nous*, that's not a cliché. Parents and daughters prepare and eat three meals a day together. When the Neales wish for a fish dish, they don masks and snorkels, grab underwater slings and go fishing.

School is also a family affair. Melanie, 16, and Carolyn, 14, spend six or seven hours a day below deck with their correspondence courses; Tom teaches history while Mel teaches math and biology.

They also get practical instruction from their folks. One recent day, Melanie had just finished taking an engine apart with her father and was grinding a valve. "Out in the Bahamas, you can't just take it to the shop and get it fixed," she said.

After their schooling, the girls often paint or write letters in the forward stateroom.



Rod and Karen Bauer, along with daughter Ruth, prepare their sailboat in San Diego for a year-long cruise. (Alan Abrahamson/LA Times)

The rigors of the live-aboard life are real, Melanie said. But there's plenty of time to play. "We wouldn't want to [live ashore] even if we could." Of course, like any yacht, *Chez Nous* has to pull into port periodically for repairs, supplies, visits to doctors and grandparents, or to sit out storms.

And time ashore gives parents and daughters a chance to recharge — after long stretches of being trapped aboard a small boat with only each other for company or after fighting boredom and sunburn while drifting without even a hint of breeze.

Even so, from the day they got married in 1968, Tom and Mel always wanted to go to sea. Both

had grown up sailing in Virginia. It took 11 years to make the dream a reality. They didn't starve. But every spare penny went toward buying a boat. There was no big house on the hill. No dinners at fancy restaurants. Not even movies.

Right off, however, the Neales bought a 27-foot sailboat. They traded up to a 41-footer, then up again to the 47-footer. The \$100,000 it cost was a hefty sum, especially in 1979, but that bought a boat big enough for children.

"This is how so many people do it," Tom said. "Other people think that [cruisers] are wealthy and loafing on inherited money."

Now, said Richard Spindler,

*Latitude 38's* publisher: "What you have are the baby-boom people, just gazillions of them, saying, 'I work pretty hard. Why? I can get a great boat for \$30,000 to \$40,000. Do something different and enjoy life.'"

But people sometimes do fall overboard or get smacked in the head by a boom. Occasionally, small sailboats are run over by big ships.

ABOARD *Chez Nous*, in port recently in Fort Lauderdale, the watchword is frugality. Meals run toward rice and beans, homemade bread, home-grown sprouts and, if the hunting has been good, fish.

To make money, Tom Neale writes for *Cruising World* and delivers speeches at cruising seminars. Mel, an accomplished painter, sells her work when in port. Melanie helps out by bawking hand-painted T-shirts.

It took several years for Tom Neale's writing to pay steadily. At first, he said, "I worked on people's toilets. Whatever you could do, I did it." Money is sometimes scarce, he said. But life on a 47-foot sailboat isn't about money, anyway.

"Think about seeing the starfish on the bottom of the sea in the moonlight," he said. "Think about that. The sea is that clear. The sand is that white. And you're seeing it in the moonlight."

"Or you're on watch at night. You and your kid are all alone on deck, talking about things. You and she are totally alone under the stars. It's incredible."

"Or working together as a family, to survive in a storm. It's very scary. And then you come through it together." He paused, then added: "People who don't understand will say, 'When are you going to come back to the real world?' To me, out here, this is the real world." (Los Angeles Times)

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## Leaks versus security

IT is good to know that Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak realizes that the Military Police acted rashly and carelessly in trying to track down information-leakers.

In particular, it was a blunder to seek a court order to obtain telephone records of journalists rather than of the suspected officers. The blunder was compounded by the fact that the records contained not only telephone numbers of army officers, but all the numbers the journalists called on their cellular phones. The IDF also failed to return the lists containing these numbers. It has now been instructed not to use them.

But while the outrage in the journalistic community is just, it would be a mistake to ignore the gravity of the army's problem. The leaking of unauthorized information to the press by employees is a bazaar in every organization. In the army, the hazard can become a serious danger to national security. It is disingenuous to say, as some critics of the army's action have done, that censorship regulations provide adequate protection against the publication of sensitive leaked material. The fact is that one leading newspaper ignores censorship regulations with utter impunity, and that leaks become public knowledge in no time even, if they are not published.

Moreover, the law forbids all public employees, particularly members of the armed forces, to give journalists any information whatsoever - regardless of whether it compromises the country's security - unless it is authorized by official spokesmen. That this law may be onerous in a free society and anachronistic in today's environment is beside the point. It is the

duty of the Military Police to catch lawbreakers in the military ranks.

Complicating the issue is the fact that the press cannot perform its duty without the help of whistle blowers. The army may be truly concerned about security secrets, but it is all too tempting for its bureaucracy to describe every exposure of wrongdoing, corruption, dereliction of duty, negligence, or irresponsibility as harmful to security.

Nor is it possible to keep a huge, central establishment like the IDF free of internal politics, rivalries, and ideological differences, which lead to leaks to the press; or to ignore that these leaks became a flood when the negotiations with the PLO and Syria involved military officers as negotiators and politicized the army to an unprecedented degree.

Clearly, without someone in the military willing to risk breaking the law to divulge scandalous goings on, the country would have to rely on nothing but official pronouncements - hardly a satisfactory solution.

It must also be noted that in granting the army's request for a list of the telephone numbers requested by journalists, the court accommodated the army, but failed to consider the law which safeguards the secrecy of journalists' sources, and the basic law which prohibits invasion of privacy except when a specific threat to national security is reasonably suspected.

The balancing act between the fundamental right of the public to know and the state's security interests, especially in a country still at war, is never easy. But more sensitivity on the army's part for the former and a less cavalier journalistic attitude to the latter may help.

## The great Swiss banks robbery

THAT Swiss banks have been knowingly denying the existence of vast Jewish deposits in their vaults is nothing short of mind-boggling. Deposited by Jews in the 12 years between the rise of Nazism and the end of World War II, these fortunes are estimated at anywhere between \$1 billion and \$3b. (at the dollar value of that time). But the Swiss banks are admitting only to Jewish "inactive accounts" totaling \$32 million.

Ironically, what made Jews transfer their money to Switzerland was the Swiss secrecy act of 1934, which enabled depositors to remain anonymous and prohibited disclosure of the accounts by the banks. Worried that the Nazis would trace their money, Jews were thus assured that their deposits were safe. But when heirs to Jewish depositors tried to trace the accounts, the inscrutable Swiss banks denied them access, often with surly rudeness.

Total bank secrecy is no longer in force in Switzerland. The banks cooperate with governments in investigating such crimes as illegal transfers of monies from state treasuries by thieves, dictators, or the deposits of drug dealers' illicit profits. Purportedly, they are also collaborating with World Jewish Congress President Edgar Bronfman, who is trying to uncover the Jewish accounts, and with the individuals who may have claims as heirs.

A central figure in the search is New York Republican Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, who also heads the Robert Dole campaign in New York.

He says that the Swiss bankers collaborated with the Nazis in accepting fortunes they knew had been robbed from Jews, and that today's evasions, confusions, and concealments of the facts are deliberate. He believes the bankers are guilty of a conspiracy of silence, which they hope will enable them to continue using the vast amounts of Jewish property. With time, they hope, the problem will disappear.

Nor are the bankers the only partners in this conspiracy. Officials involved in D'Amato's investigation say that in the post-war period, the CIA, in collaboration with the banks, was also involved in keeping the fortunes from their legal owners.

If Bronfman and D'Amato succeed in uncovering and retrieving just part of the fortune in the Swiss banks, Switzerland's whole banking system may undergo an earthquake. Not only will the banks have to pay vast amounts to Holocaust survivors (and to the State of Israel if direct heirs cannot be found), but their credibility and reputation for scrupulous honesty will suffer a shattering blow. Not surprisingly, the Swiss have already hired an American law firm to fight D'Amato's investigation.

D'Amato has told an interviewer that truth is bound to triumph, not least because the international banking community cannot allow itself to endanger relations with the US. It must be hoped that he is not overly optimistic, and that more than a half-century after the greatest robbery and pillage in history was committed, at least some justice will be done.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### UNDESERVED RESCUE

Sir, - One is long accustomed to seeing Norway rush to the aid of the Palestinians, in a misplaced effort to relieve them of the necessity of confronting the consequences of their actions. It is sad to see the US forced to do the same, under the coercion of other Arab participants in the Washington anti-terrorism conference.

Indeed, the refusal of the Arab side to accept responsibility for the results of its decisions can fairly be said to be the root cause of much of the bloodshed of the past half century and before. Refusing to accept the existence of Israel when it was already an established fact, refusing to recognize their military failure in 1967, refusing to recognize that their own insistence had rendered the 1948 armistice lines irrelevant (and on, and on), the Arabs have been at each step kept aloft by European aid, given in either malice or well-meaning naivete, the absence of which might have brought them back to reality.

Now too, the present closure is a consequence of misguided assurances by Arafat to his people that Jerusalem, Arab sovereignty, and even the obliteration of Israel might be within grasp. Murderers, instead of being crushed (in accordance with his obligations) were lionized, thus encouraging terrorism and more murder. To insult Arafat and his constituency from the consequences of the closure, in such a way as to seem a victory for Arafat's diplomacy, is again to encourage more violence. Why not, since it has

no negative consequences? Conveniently forgotten is the formerly sacred principle of "fungibility," which evidently does not apply to funds donated to Palestinians.

The suffering people of Cuba and of Iran, each under "closure" for the irresponsible actions of their governments, do not receive US or Norwegian subventions. Why are they different?

Kiryat Tivon, STAN GOODMAN

### PUNISHMENT

Sir, - In the Letters of March 28, 51 self-proclaimed Palestinian intellectuals caution against collective punishment taken out of desire for retaliation against Palestinian terrorism.

May I remind these Palestinian "intellectuals" that the continuous massacre of the Israeli people by Palestinian terrorists is in itself collective punishment! The punishment should fit the crime.

Beit Yanna, WALTER FERGUSON

### OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Sir, - A photo caption in your issue of March 29 implies that a Jerusalem Arab needs the services of an Arabic-to-Hebrew translator in order to apply for Israeli citizenship. Since Arabic is an official language of the State of Israel, something must be amiss. I hope it's the caption.

Herzliya, MARK L. LEVINSON

### PIGEONS AT THE WALL

Sir, - Does Jerusalem have pigeons at the Wall? Let me answer the question, but in my own way.

This month, I returned from my first trip to Israel. It was a most exciting and wonderful trip! The people, the sites, the food were outstanding and everyone in our small UJA group felt that we were indeed "returning home." I am ready to return and explore more. One site I will probably avoid is the Western Wall in the Old City. And maybe you have already guessed why - the "pigeons." Well maybe they really aren't pigeons in their long dark coats, but they certainly remind me of pigeons in the park. Give one a shekel and they swarm around you with their hands out, shouting obscenities at you if they don't get their share. They try to extract feed from every person going to the wall.

As I approached the Wall, they came at me from every direction. I proceeded directly to the Wall and started praying. I am mourning the loss of my 21-year-old son and I felt strong urges to communicate with God. The entire time I stood there with my eyes closed, swaying back and forth with tears streaming down my cheeks, there was at least one "pigeon" by my side insisting that I feed him! Not standing respectfully to the side waiting for me to finish my prayers, but within inches constantly talking (and shouting) at me.

Why can't the authorities maintain a little control over the begging? IRVING M. RICHARDS  
Riverside, California.



## A diversionary enemy

URI DAN  
DENNIS EISENBERG

THE middle-aged man who walked into a quiet cafe in the heart of Paris carried a large, leather briefcase which had clearly seen better days. He took a seat in the corner, removed his hat, ordered a black coffee and began reading the *France-Soir* he had bought a few moments before.

Shortly afterwards, he was joined by a newcomer.

The two men chatted amiably for several minutes, then left the restaurant together. Twenty minutes later in a small nearby hotel, they climbed up two flights of stairs. Waiting for them was a stocky, ill-dressed, swarthy man who spoke French with a heavy Middle Eastern accent.

Later that evening the three of them spent a happy evening together at Regine's discotheque. The dark-haired man was Abbas Musawi, at the time the spiritual and military leader of Hizbullah. He was persuaded to sip a little of the champagne they had ordered to celebrate their "deal." He pulled a face and spat out the bubbling liquid. "I would rather have one of the girls here. Price no object," he said. Having fixed him up to his taste, Musawi shook the hand of his "partners" and then left.

As the Frenchman explained to this column: "You Israelis had just spent \$1 million of your taxpayers' money. Musawi promised to get you information about Ron Arad. It was a risk you had to take, for he was the one who arranged for Mustafa Dirani, one of his lieutenants, to sell Arad to the Iranian Revolutionary Guards. I have just learned that Arad was kept in the basement of the Iranian Embassy in Beirut for a couple of months before they sent him to Iran."

The Frenchman, a frequent visitor to Beirut, went on to reveal that after enjoying one night in Paris, Musawi returned to Lebanon with his booty. Israel never heard from him again. He failed to deliver the information he had promised and, if anything, he increased the number of attacks launched against IDF soldiers in the security zone.

Some time afterwards, on a February night in 1992, an Apache helicopter rose from its camouflaged hiding place in a deep Lebanese ravine and hovered near a narrow crossroads. "He's on his way in a Mercedes. You have about 10 minutes before he reaches you. His driver is very careful - maybe it will be 15 minutes."

In fact it was a full half hour before the car was spotted.

As it reached the crossroads a single rocket blew the car, together with Musawi and two of his bodyguards, as well as the driver, to pieces. At Israel's intelligence headquarters, Musawi's file was transferred to the "dead" archives.

Outraged at the way one of his most loyal and efficient terrorist chiefs had been blown to bits, Ali Fallahiyah, the Iranian intelligence minister in the Iranian cabinet (who is now wanted to stand trial in Germany) immediately sent explosive material by means

of a diplomatic pouch to Buenos Aires. Not long afterwards, in March 1992, an explosion at Israel's embassy there resulted in the deaths of 29 people.

The search for Arad, meanwhile, continued.

An approach was made to a Lebanese millionaire, Iskandar Safa, who today owns the famous Cherbourg shipyard where Israeli missile boats were once secretly built. Now boats are being built here for Arab clients. Both the rich Lebanese and his close friend, Yves Bounnet, a former head of the French secret service, were asked to help find the missing airplane.

Both men made a genuine effort, for humanitarian reasons, to do so but confessed after several months they had got absolutely nowhere.

WHETHER IT is the memory of the loss of the million dollars, his anguish over the fate of Ron Arad or genuine rage at Iran for being the source of terror attacks, Prime Minister Shimon Peres's vitriolic outbursts against the evil mullahs of Teheran grow in vehemence and volume daily.

His reporter, close to the thinking of Lebanese politicians, declared that Beirut is convinced Israeli commandos will strike at the Iranian Embassy in Beirut. This

Iranian outpost is known to be a nerve center of Iranian-directed terror initiatives. Nor has it been forgotten that this is where Arad was kept captive before, in all probability, being transferred to Iran.

In Beirut, some think such a strike will be fully supported by the United States, for Bill Clinton, too, has an election looming later this year.

Peres gives the impression that, as he rails mightily against Hizbullah for being a tool in the hand of Iran, he is forgetting what is right under his nose. He is looking so far into the distance that he overlooks that Hizbullah is only one of the Iranian stormtrooper units in the march of Islam to conquer the world.

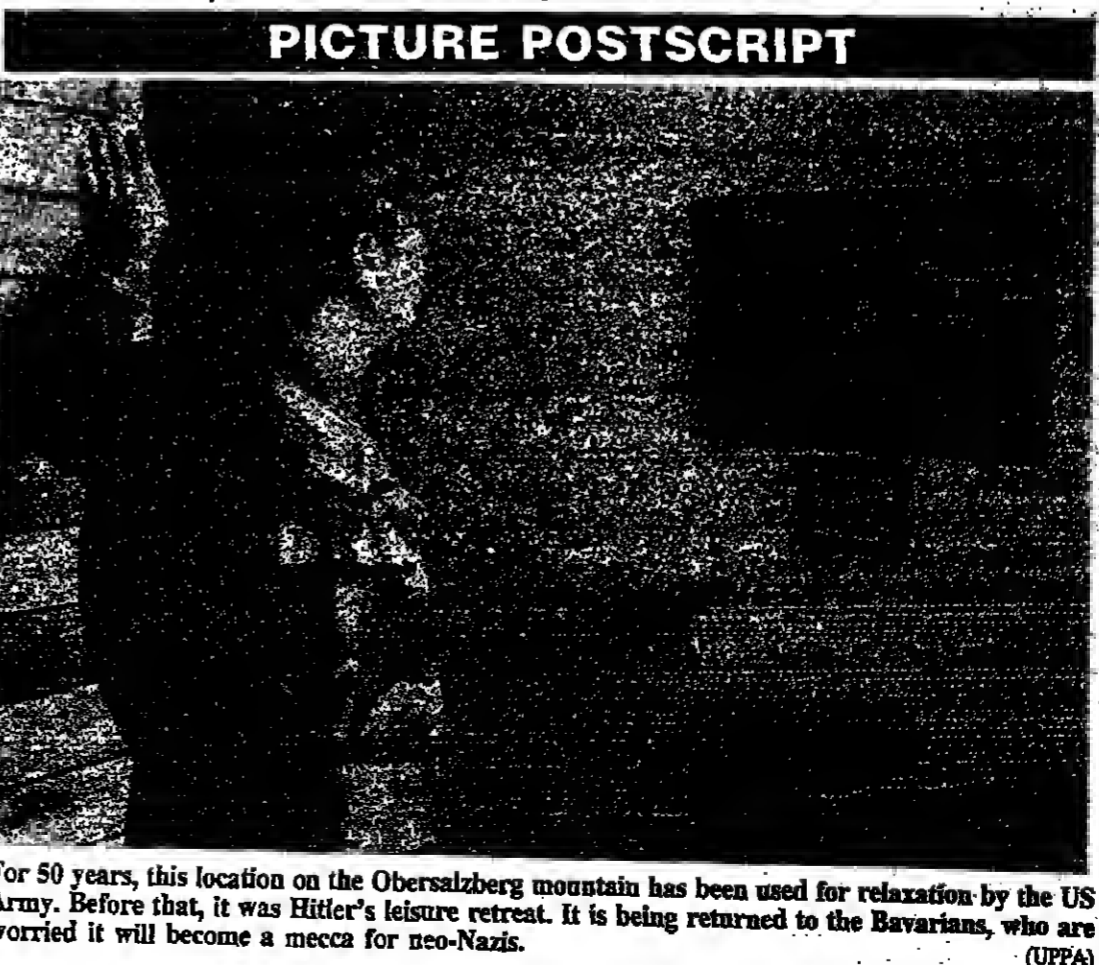
Right in his own backyard, in case Peres needs reminding, are two other Hizbullah clones: Hamas and Islamic Jihad. Surely you remember them, Mr. Peres? They are the fanatics who send out suicide bombers to kill and maim Israelis. Mr. Peres, surely you recall the recent atrocities in Jerusalem, Ashkelon, and even Tel Aviv, where you live.

And what about Yasser Arafat, your fellow Nobel Prize winner, who works hand in glove with Hamas chiefs? He signs or makes verbal agreements with Hamas and Islamic Jihad to let them kill as many Jews as they want, so long as they don't embarrass him by openly carrying out attacks from the areas he now controls. Even your own police chiefs and intelligence officers tell you, Mr. Peres, that Arafat's alleged efforts to curb Islamic extremists is nothing more than window dressing.

If Peres accuses the Iranians of being murderers and criminals, then by all simple logic, as Iran equals international Moslem terror, which equals Hizbullah which equals Hamas, which equals Islamic Jihad which equals the faintly-disguised passive compliance of Yasser Arafat, all are tarred by the same murderous brush.

Mr. Peres, if you want to be taken seriously, then be honest with the Israeli public and say this out loud. Also, take offensive action against the terrorist threat from the nearby West Bank and Gaza Strip instead of pointing our attention to distant enemies in Teheran, in an attempt to divert attention away from your unrepentant partner in neighboring Gaza.

The writers are authors of *The Mossad: Secrets of the Israeli Secret Service and other books on the Middle East*.



For 50 years, this location on the Obersalzberg mountain has been used for relaxation by the US Army. Before that, it was Hitler's leisure retreat. It is being returned to the Bavarians, who are worried it will become a mecca for neo-Nazis. (UPPA)

## Basic impulses

LARRY DERFNER

If only university graduates could vote in the election, who do you think would win - Shimon Peres and the Left, or Bibi Netanyahu and the Right?

At the other end of the scale, if only ignoramuses, criminals, and ex-cons could vote, who would win then?

I can't quote any studies comparing the educational achievements and good citizenship of doves and hawks, but it is axiomatic that most of Israel's elite vote Left while virtually all of Israel's dregs - the Jewish dregs, that is - vote Right.

Don't get me wrong - not all Labor and Meretz voters are geniuses, or even nice people. Moreover, there is no shortage of National Camp intellectuals, and most right-wingers, to be sure, are decent folks. Some of my best friends vote Likud or worse.

But whenever I see some slack-mouthed, dead-eyed Israeli with a 17-word vocabulary cursing and threatening from behind the wheel or in the grocery store, I say to myself: there's another vote for Bibi.

If you're looking for the strongholds of right-wing support, you could start with the settlements, but you might do better to start with the prisons. The Jewish killers, the thugs, the mafiosi - try finding a leftist among them.

When you go into a shop and see a photo of the late, would-be messiah, the Lubavitcher rebbe, or the late, would-be faith healer, the Baba Sali, you can almost bet that the shopowner is praying for God to deliver Israel from Shimon Peres.

The same goes for anyone chanting a *pasuk* during a death case on archeologists. Our religious primitives may vote for hardy parties, but when it comes to political ideology, they are instinctively right-wing.

And in case anyone would like to forget them, let's remember the worst among us - the Yigal Amir and Baruch Goldstein devotees. They may be a small voting bloc, but they are 100% solid for Bibi.

WITH ITS broad ranks of fine, intelligent people, why is it that the National Camp manages to attract nearly all the dimwits, irrationalists, and no-goods in this country? Because right-wing political impulses, compared to those of the Left, are basic.

They are impulses of selfishness and arrogance - not on behalf of the individual, but on behalf of the group, our group, the Jews. They are marshaled against our main rival group, the Palestinians.

## The ignorant, the violent, the superstitious - they love the Right and hate the Left

These impulses send out one constant signal: We have all the rights, they have none, so we may treat them, anyway we want so long as we can get away with it.

Most Israeli hawks came to this attitude for a legitimate reason - as far as they're concerned, the Palestinians forfeited their rights long ago, when they started killing Jews. But some Israelis are hawks because right-wing politics speaks to their rotten souls. It's what they practice on a person-to-person level: I'm the only one who counts, so I can do anything I want to you. This is the mentality of the violent criminal, and this is why violent Israeli criminals are natural right-wingers.

Dumb Israelis are drawn to the National Camp because while both the Right and the Left speak to people's minds, only the Right speaks to people's blood - their anger, their fear, their hatred. Dumb people feel a lot more comfortable thinking with their blood than with their minds, so the great majority of them vote for Likud or down.

Believers in living messiahs (and dead messiahs), in faith healing, in fatal curses - these are practitioners of the most reactionary kind of Judaism. At the heart of reactionary Judaism is a belief in Jewish supremacy, which meshes nicely with right-wing politics, hence the bond many followers of strange Jewish cults feel with the National Camp.

The ignorant, the violent, the superstitious - they love the Right and hate the Left. Bibi Netanyahu and the opposition parties have their votes sewn up. Any "floating voters" now floating to the Right may want to take a good look at some of the people splashing around over there, and move away.

The writer is a freelancer.



Selling Herring on Queen's Day is something to celebrate.

## Celebrate Koninginnedag Holland's Ultimate Birthday Party

By Ellen B. Klugman

**I** like people who make big deals over other people's birthdays—particularly if it's mine. But I'm willing to compromise. So when an entire nation like the Netherlands throws a birthday for its queen, I go. "Koninginnedag" ("Queens Day") is like no other celebration in Holland. For starters, it's not, in fact, the Queen's birthday, although it is celebrated as such.

Queen Beatrix was born on January 31. But the ever-practical Dutch realized that winter is not weather for an outdoor party, so they changed the celebration of Queen's Day to April 30, the birthday of the Queen's mother, the former Queen Juliana.

So April 30 really is Queen's Day after all. If that sounds a little topsy turvy, it is. But so is "Queen's Day." In fact, that's part of the fun of it.

Queen's Day celebrations throughout Holland resemble a giant jigsaw puzzle. Each town celebrates that holiday in its own unique way, but each is linked to the other by an overwhelming pride in Holland's reigning royalty.

Amsterdam's Queen's Day celebration is extreme. In years past, The Central Station was decorated by giant candles that allegedly cost about \$50,000 to construct and erect.

What's more, come the Queen's birthday, cities like Amsterdam and Utrecht suspend their licensing require-

ments, turning those cities into one giant wall-to-wall city sidewalk sale. The night before signs hang from railings stating "Bezet" (taken), and Amsterdam's inhabitants engage in an all-night vigil in order to stake out the perfect street corner upon which to set up a table for Amsterdam's city-wide flea market.

In this carnival-like atmosphere, people bring their antics on to the streets, outdoor bands blare, people dance wild in the streets, and Indian and Vietnamese food sizzles on hastily erected hibachis until the wee hours of the morning after.

Amsterdam's streets bulge with people, as visitors flock into the city with their wares from all corners of the country. Utrecht's version is more sedate. My best advice on Queen's Day, however, is to get out into the countryside and see what the rest of Holland is doing.

With any luck, you may run into the Queen. *In person*, Queen Beatrix makes it a habit to visit two Dutch towns on her birthday. The identity of these towns is kept secret until the last minute in order to minimize crowds and security risks. But if you pick up a newspaper or have someone translate a radio news report that same morning, you could reach one of those two destinations by noon.

The rest of Holland celebrates the Queen's birthday regardless of her physical presence. Judging from the enthusiasm with which they partied, none seemed to mind.

I took the opportunity to drive to several towns outside to Amsterdam, starting with Muiden (pronounced "MOI-den"), a lovely town on the southern rim of the Zuider Zee, about 10 minutes drive southeast of Amsterdam.

The "Muidenslot," an imposing brick castle-fortress surrounded by a moat, lends the town a romantic air. Unfortunately, because of this national holiday, the interior of the castle-fortress is closed.

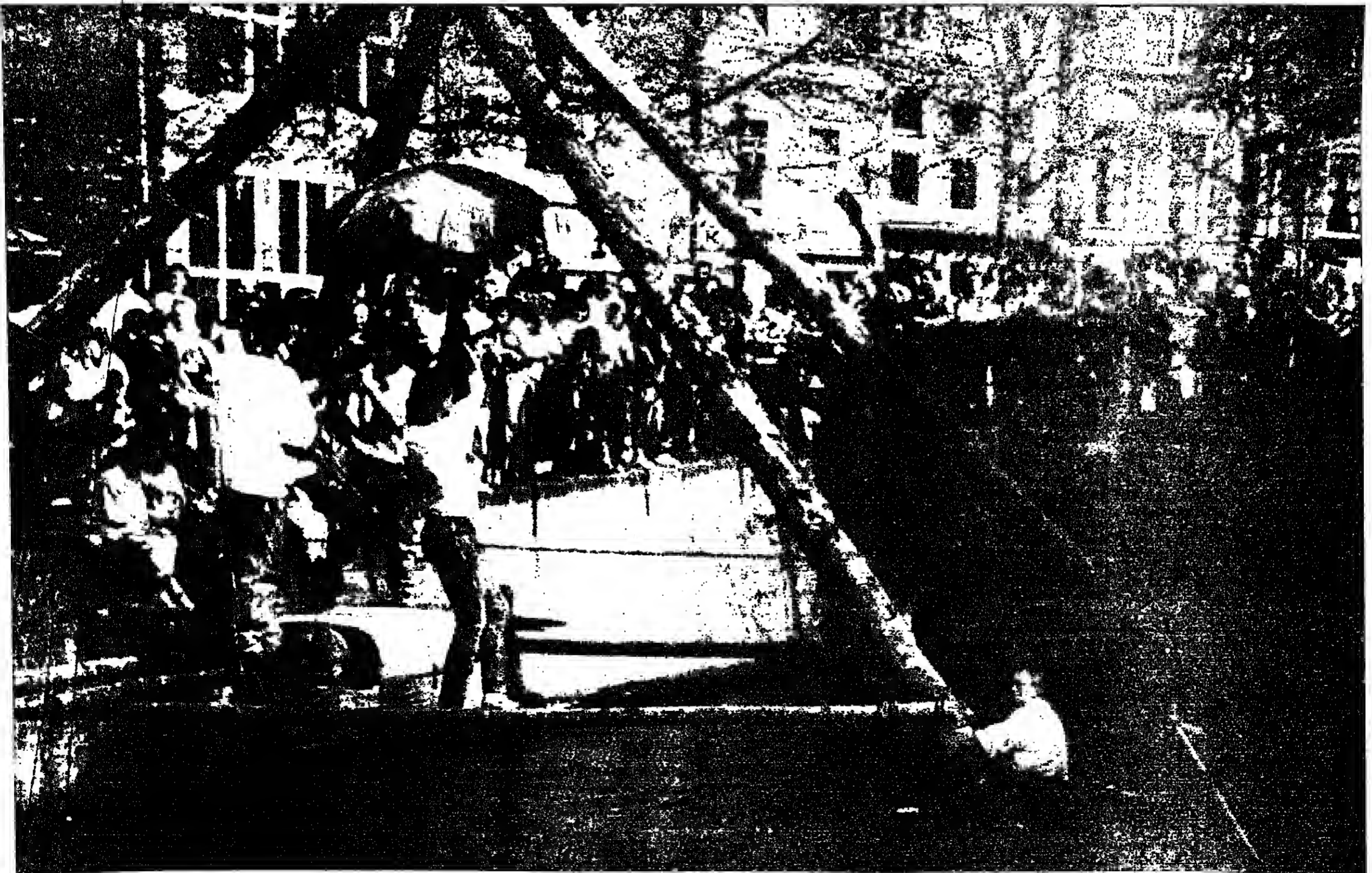
Nonetheless, Muiden has its pluses. Queen's Day here means quay-side cafés lined with townspeople leisurely lingering over good conversation and a beer or two. A band tests its microphone, and children's rides are set up in an area covered with hay, indicating that the day's festivities will soon begin.

On the narrow brick streets of Breukelen, a small town along the charming estate-lined drive which follows the path of the River Vecht, booths are set up to celebrate silliness and general glee with pie throws, and various other sorts of games. People shaking orange pompons and wearing hats with oranges stuck on them underscore the reason for the day's celebration: Holland's royal house is Orange.

Southwest is Gouda (pronounced "Howda"). The market-town of Gouda is famous for its cheese of the same name. The Gouda cheese market each Friday morning provides an endless source of delight for tourists who have never seen this colorful event.

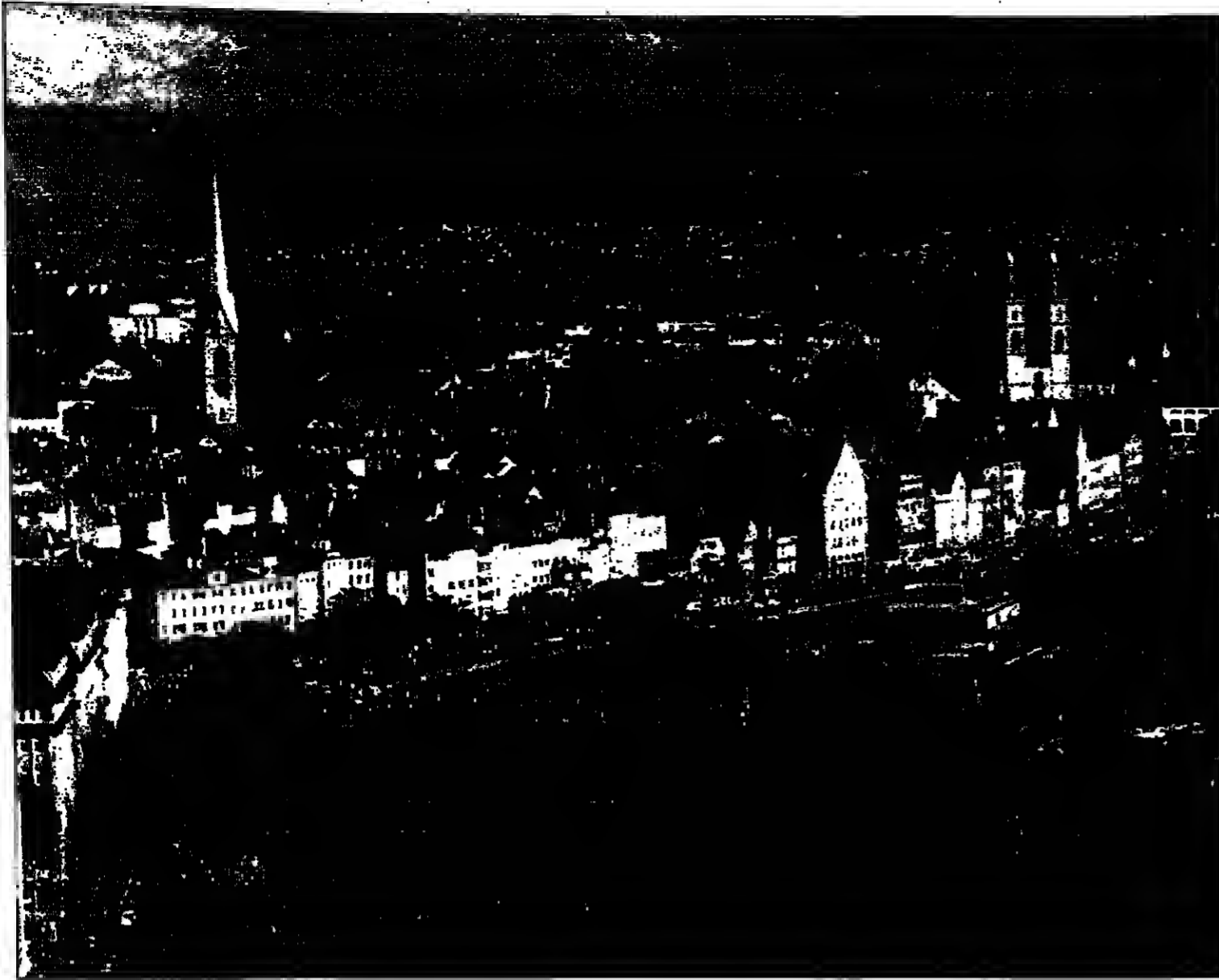
On Queen's Day, however, the roundish marketplace is occupied by booths and crowds of people milling about sampling food. A band pelts out the vigorous rock and roll classic, "Kansas City" in front of a 17th century building which used to house a witch's weighing station. Armed with a tasty fallafel, I explored the city's central square before

*Continued on page 2*



In Oudeweter, as throughout Holland, Queen's Day celebrations include games of chance performed over a canal.

Photos by Ellen B. Klugman



Located on the river Limmat, Zurich offers an imposing view with the mountains of central Switzerland in the background.

Photos courtesy of the Swiss National Tourist Office

# ZURICH IS LITTLE, BIG CITY ON THE LIMMAT

By George Hobica

Copley News Service

What's the Swiss word for sale? I overheard an American ask her companion as we rode the funicular up to Zurich's famed Dolder Grand Hotel, perched on its aerie high above the city. "As in shopping?" her companion asked. "I don't think they have a word for that in Swiss."

Well, in fact, they do. German-speaking Swiss use the expression *aus verkauf* to designate price reductions. But you don't go to Zurich looking for bargains. Not ever, really.

So what do you do in Zurich, Switzerland's largest city and financial capital? With the dollar hovering at near parity with the Swiss franc I did something that's free or nearly so: museum hopping and walking.

I was to meet Monika, a native who frequently guides tourists, at precisely 3:45 p.m. for an afternoon stroll through the city's downtown precincts. I carefully consulted my watch so as not to be late, recalling that a Swiss friend once told me when meeting some-

one for an appointment he'd wait no more than 10 minutes past the appointed time.

We began amid the baroque splendor of the Hauptbahnhof railway station, which once stood at the edge of town, but now, after 100 years of urban expansion, occupies its center. Monika pointed out the station's main entrance, with its resemblance to Paris' Arc de Triomphe. We walked down the Bahnhofstrasse, or Railroad Street, a deceptively simple name for such a wealthy thoroughfare—although understatement is fitting in a country where top executives and wealthy individuals eschew limos and other conspicuous consumption, preferring instead to get

around by tram or foot.

Beneath this street, where the only vehicles are the city's ubiquitous trams and the occasional delivery van, Zurich's many banks store their vast gold reserves. As we walked under the lime trees and past the sparkling display windows burgeoning with Rolex and Philippe Patek watches, my escort explained that Bahnhofstrasse was built on an erstwhile moat—the Froschengraben, or Frogs' Moat—that once helped protect the city from unwanted visitors. Soon we were in front of the only green space on the street, a small park.

"This where public executions used to take place," Monika stated matter-of-factly. "Nobody wanted to buy this land because of its past associations."

She then pointed out the polytechnic where Albert Einstein was a student, recalling the oft-told tale that he flunked the entrance exam on his first try.

"It was in Zurich that he developed the theory of relativity with his first wife," Monika continued. "Of course, he took all the credit. His wife died here in 1941, quite forgotten. The youngest son died in a psychiatric hospital in 1965, also in Zurich."

Our next stop was the Lindenhof, a wide plaza

## So what do you do in Zurich, Switzerland's largest city and financial capital?

paved in cobblestones. In 15 B.C., Zurich was nothing more than a Roman border station called Turicum, and this plaza, high on a hill, was its epicenter. When the Romans left in the fifth century, local tribes invaded and destroyed the settlement to the best of their ability. No signs of upheaval were in evidence on this warm, sunny day as pensioners and students moved oversized chess pieces about on the ground.

We walked to the edge of the of the plaza and looked down upon the town and sparkling Limmat River. From this strategic height, it was easy to see why the Romans would build a custom house here.

After the Romans left, the locals were frequently harassed by Hun hordes, and, much later, despite Switzerland's reputation as a peace-loving country, attacked neighboring towns themselves. In 1292, Zurich decided to conquer nearby Winterthur. Zurich lost the battle and came under siege, with many men put out of action while defending the town. But then the "Brave Women of Zurich," to whom a statue is dedicated here on the Lindenhof, donned their men-folk's battle gear and menacingly brandished spears and swords from this precipice, thus convincing the Winterthurians to beat a hasty retreat.

"Perhaps the story is apocryphal, but what's certain is the brave women of Zurich didn't get the vote until 1970," Monika says with irony bordering on bitterness.

"That's amazing," I said, genuinely amazed. "No, that's shocking," she countered. "The tower we walked to St. Peter's Church, which has a clock that is reputedly the largest in Europe."

"The tower used to belong to the city," Monika related, "and the parish tried to buy it. Now it needs so many repairs that the city is trying to sell it to the parish, but they don't want it."

We wended our way through Zurich's medieval quarter and its principal street, Newmark, lined with houses built in the 14th through 17th centuries, now mostly trendy shops—and not a single *aus verkauf* sign in sight.

For just one Swiss franc, you can climb to the top of Zurich's Protestant cathedral—weather and season permitting. The cathedral is indeed plain inside, in keeping with the city's modest Calvinist demeanor.

"All decoration was removed or covered up when it was converted from a Catholic to a Protestant church," Monika informed me, "but somehow, a few stained-glass windows remain."

While in the Old Town, we stopped to take a look at a couple of small hotels, including the brand new Widder at Rennweg 7.

Designed by 52-year-old Swiss architect Tilla Theas, the Widder occupies a row of medieval town houses dating from the 11th to the 17th centuries. The exterior has been carefully preserved, as has much of the interior, although here and there, modern touches are in evidence: stainless steel, granite, glass, leather and eight different kinds of wood, which blend successfully with original frescoes, tile floors and exposed wood beams. Oriental rugs cover the wood floors.

By coincidence, it was the hotel's official opening day, and we bumped into the manager, who was only too happy to show off his new project.

We took the stainless-steel and glass elevator, which occupies an interior courtyard, to the penthouse suite. The manager pointed out the Blue Cloud Brazilian marble in the bathroom and the custom-painted, electrically operated window shades, which are unique to these rooms, and then took us up to a rooftop terrace overlooking all of Zurich.

"The architect designed all the furniture," he said, demonstrating a granite-topped cocktail table that converts with the touch of a button to dining height.

Another appealing small hotel is Haus Zum Kindli, at Pfalzasse 1, also in the Old Town. These may well be the most beautiful rooms in Zurich.

A less expensive option that we peeked into was the Limmathof, at Limmathof 142, centrally located on the river. Some rooms have been recently refurbished in its clean and compact hostelry, but all have double-glazed windows to keep out the noise. If you stay here, as for a renovated room.

All this talking made us hungry, so we stopped at Sprungli. Zurich's most famous chocolate and pastry shop, at the corner of Paradeplatz and Bahnhofstrasse. The specialty here is Luxemburgerli, bite-size pieces of heaven that resemble meringues and are filled with chocolate, vanilla and mocha creams. A small box—100 gran—of these irresistible wonders cost about \$7.

The next day I visited Zurich's Opera House, where a dozen or more performances each year attract audiences from around Europe. Inside there's lots of gilt and red velvet, ours are given every second Saturday at 2:15 p.m.—sharp, of course.

From there, I took a tram to the Foundation Emil G. Bührle Collection at the Barnes Foundation, outside Philadelphia. I've seen such an impressive private collection of 19th and 20th century French paintings in such an inky setting. The museum, located in one of Bührle's homes on a quiet suburban street, displays its treasures amid fine period antiques and Oriental carpets.

I was the only visitor on a sunny afternoon, and I sat in one of the comfortable chairs, astounded, gazing at Renoir's "Little Irene," Van Gogh's "The Sower" and Cézanne's "The Boy in the Red Waistcoat," among others. A genteel breeze came in through the windows, which overlooked private garden. I would rather visit one museum like this than a dozen overcrowded Louvres.

From the modest setting, you could imagine that such riches lay within? This case of masterpieces, like the gold laying under the Bahnhofstrasse, could stand as a metaphor for Zurich itself, occurred to me later as I walked back down to the tram. Behind the modest and unassuming facade, a treasure trove awaits.

George Hobica is a freelance writer.

## Birthday From page 1

getting back into my car to see more of the Queen's Day in the countryside.

Wandering through the backroads of Holland, the tiny town of Oudewater lies 10 kilometers east of Gouda.

An old Dutch town, Oudewater was almost completely destroyed in 1578 by Spanish invaders. "The Bridge of Tears," under which three surviving villagers took refuge, has kept its name, even today.

When I arrived, the villagers were celebrating—Orange crepe decorated the streets. A friendly looking man beckoned me to join him and his wife at one of the outdoor cafes overlooking a scenic canal.

"It's Queen's Day," they proudly declared, ordering me a beer. The couple owned an antique store in town. The wife, "Greet," was a former airline stewardess with short blond hair, clear blue eyes, and a bright, sharp mind.

She explained that many of Holland's Queen's Day celebrations center on games of strength played over a canal. We watched from our canal-side seats as a young boy shimmied onto ropes stretched over the canal to grapple a suspended greased pole capped by an umbrella. The idea was to hold on as long as possible before dropping

into the canal. Although there seemed to be an endless line of people willing to play, I opted for the sidelines.

At night, a procession of boats armed with paper lanterns would glide through the canals.

## My best advice on Queen's Day, however, is to get out into the countryside and see what the rest of Holland is doing.

Although I may be swayed Oudewater during an enchanting Queen's Day celebration, the chance of being embraced by native Dutchers is the best way to experience a place. Regardless, I would recommend visiting this intimate town during any season.

Like most Dutch towns, it is built of brick. Oudewater's Witch's Museum (closed on Queen's Day) holds displays from the period in Holland's history when women accused of being witches were burned at frequent intervals.

According to Greet, people came from as far as Poland to be weighed at the Oudewater witch's

station. Those suspected of being witches were forced to wear a special white frock without pockets so they wouldn't secretly weigh themselves down with rocks before sitting on the scales.

The prevailing theory at the time was that witches didn't weigh anything at all. My theory is that dissatisfied husbands and neighbors might have rigged the scales in order to rid themselves of unwanted company.

Although I found myself in superb company, it was time to visit Holland's tulip fields before dark.

Figuring that most people would be too busy celebrating Queen's Day to go look at tulips proved to be a wise guess. En route, I stopped to contemplate an occasional windmill and, from Lisse to Leiden, marveled at carpets of color that lay before me. Since Holland is a northern country, the sun didn't set until almost nine p.m., allowing me ample time to return to Amsterdam before dark.

Entering the foyer of my hotel after an eleven o'clock stroll, I knew that Amsterdam's celebration would remain in full gear for several hours to come.

I wondered whether the Queen was asleep and if it was a breach of protocol to let my head hit the pillow before she did. I silently wished her a happy birthday and a good night.

Ellen B. Klugman is a freelance travel writer.



Scenes like this dot the Vecht River, easily reached from Amsterdam.

Photo by Ellen B. Klugman

## TULIP TIME

See The Netherlands' most famous blossom in all its glory during Expo Garden Tours' "Holland at Tulip Time" trip, April 18-27. The gardens of Amsterdam, Lisse, Apeldoorn, Maastricht, Mijdrecht, Heideboer, Utrecht, Delft and The Hague are on the itinerary, as well as visits to castles, floral exhibits and private gardens.

Noted gardening author Judy Glattstein will accompany the tour. Participants will visit Amsterdam's floating market, the 70-acre Keukenhof Exhibition, the Westland Flower Auction and the Bloemencorso Flower Parade.

"Holland at Tulip Time" is priced from \$2,999 per person, double occupancy, including round-trip airfare from New York, accommodations, all

breakfasts, one lunch, three dinners, admissions to gardens and museums.

FYI: Expo Garden Tours, 101 Sunrise Hill Road, Norwalk, Connecticut 06851; (001) 203/840-1441.

## HOLLAND BY RAIL

The Netherlands Service Center for Tourism is offering the new Benelux Rail Pass for two. The two-person pass, priced at \$233 for second-class and \$326 for first-class, covers rail travel in Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg. It's valid for five days of unlimited travel within one month.

Holland Rail Passes also offer unlimited travel for three, five or 10 days in a one-month period. Prices start at \$68 for a second-class, three-day pass.

Travelers can combine rail journeys with sight-seeing by purchasing a "Rail Kite," which includes train fares (at a 25 percent discount) and admission to more than 200 museums and attractions. Some examples include a boat trip to the traditional fishing villages of Vlissingen and Marken, a journey to Palace Het Loo in Apeldoorn or a visit to the largest bulb exhibition in the world at Keukenhof Gardens in Lisse, March 21 through May 22.

FYI: Netherlands Reservation Center, (001) 312/819-1500.

## GALLIC GRANDEUR

Planning a trip to France? The French Experience may make it a little easier. Or harder.

If you have trouble deciding where to go and how to get there.

See the country by rail, or rent a car (choose from a variety of models, ranging from small Renaults to Mercedeses). For longer trip consider leasing a new car. Or pilot a houseboat on the French waterways.

For an itinerary, stay in Paris (choosing from almost two dozen hotels or rent an apartment, or explore a different region on a self-guided driving tour and stay in glens (rural guest houses) along the way.

Prices depend on how long you stay and the level of car rental and accommodations you choose. FYI: The French Experience Incorporated, 376 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York 10017; (001) 212/986-1115.



# Lanzarote—A Favorite European Retreat

By Belinda E. Bullock

The camel rose slowly to his feet, groaning and spitting in protest as he hefted his human cargo from the ground. Ignoring his cursing keeper, the animal stretched his long neck around, regarded the rider's leg with thick-lashed, soulful eyes and sniffed. Was this a tasty snack? Hampered by a muzzle, he would never find out. The handler tugged sharply on the leash and the cranky camel finally submitted, turning his grizzled head forward and grunting loudly. Trudging through

the coarse volcanic soil, the journey began. Riding a camel up the rocky slope of Fire Mountain is just one of many experiences in store for visitors to the Spanish island of Lanzarote. This easternmost Canary Island lies in the Atlantic Ocean some 600 miles southwest of Iberia and 65 miles west of Morocco. Lanzarote ("Lan-zab-RO-ty"), the fourth largest island in the chain, was named after Lancelot Malocello, a Genoan seafarer who landed here in 1312. A stark lunar landscape honed by 17th- and 18th-century volcanic eruptions makes Lanzarote the most unusual looking island in the Canaries. Petrified lava flows, volcanic craters and a near absence of flora and

vegetation matically distinguish this desert island from other Canaries such as Tenerife and La Palma, known for their rain forest and lush foliage. Movie crews have often filmed Lanzarote's peculiar pock-marked terrain to double for the moon. Astronauts have even trained here. This arid, sun-washed isle, warmed in winter by tropical breezes blown across the sea from the Sahara, has long been a favorite retreat for northern Europeans and Britons drawn by its temperate climate, duty-free shopping and casual, Mediterranean-style ambiance. Its compact size of 323 square miles allows visitors to cover much ground in a single day, making Lanzarote an ideal cruise ship port of call. Several lines include Lanzarote on their Morocco/Western Mediterranean itineraries, which is how most Americans visit.

The Greek poet Homer first mentioned the Canary Islands in the 9th century B.C. when he described a privileged kingdom that had no winter. Juba, King of Mauretania, led an expedition to these so-called Fortunate Islands in 40 B.C. and was confronted by a



Lanzarote lies in the Atlantic Ocean, southwest of Iberia and west of Morocco.

Photos courtesy of Spanish Tourism Board

savage pack of wild dogs. This rude reception earned the archipelago a new name, "Canaria," from the Latin word for "dog."

The Canaries were largely ignored until the voyages of discovery began in the late 14th century. Colonization of these now-coveted islands, strategically located between the Mediterranean and the New World, was swift.

Lanzarote was the first to fall, in 1402, to explorer Gadifer de la Salle and Norman Knight, Jean de Bethencourt in the name of Castile. Settlers encountered an aboriginal people called Guanches, gentle

including mummification, were uncannily similar to those practiced in ancient Egypt. Though slavery and intermarriage, the Guanches were decimated by 1500. Pirates besieged Lanzarote from the 16th to the 18th centuries, boarding their ill-gotten goods in the island's many craggy caves and secluded grottoes. The remains of fortified castles, constructed by colonialists in a vain attempt to keep the buccaneers at bay, loom-like sentinels along the coast.

In 1618 capital Tegüise, named for the daughter of Lanzarote's last Guanche king, was deemed unwholesome

to protect the island from pirates due to its inland location. A new capital was chosen, Arrecife, on the southeastern coast. Today Arrecife, population 30,000, is Lanzarote's main gateway.

Two strongholds built to guard Arrecife from pirate raids have been put to modern use. The squat tower of Castillo San Gabriel (1574), linked to town by a drawbridge, is now occupied by the archaeological museum and has a display of fossils and Guanche relics. Castillo San Jose (1779) is home of the International Museum of Contemporary Art, its interior is designed by prize-winning Lanzarote-born architect Cesar Manrique.

Duty-free shops and boutiques line Arrecife's handsome old streets, arcaded plazas and El Almacén cultural center, also designed by Manrique. Bargains can be found on electronics, watches, cameras, uncut gems, pearls, jewelry, silks, leather, porcelain, furs, cigars and liquor.

Local arts and crafts for sale include embroidery, lace "rosesets," tablecloths, wood carvings, wicker baskets and the "timple," a small, guitar-like instrument said to be made to perfection in Tegüise.

Part of Lanzarote's charm is its link with the sea. Seven miles southwest of Arrecife is the island's oldest fishing village, Puerto del Carmen. This tidy town of endless ebonys and golden-sand beaches, palm-fringed promenades and bougainvillea-draped guest houses is now Lanzarote's main seaside resort. Signs (in four languages!) welcome guests from Britain, Germany, Sweden and mainland Spain, a reminder

Continued on page 4



Riding a camel is one of the many experiences in store for visitors of Lanzarote.

### If You Go

**Getting There:**  
The best way to get to Lanzarote is to fly to Madrid from New York, Iberia, Continental or United. Both Iberia and Avianca, Spain's national carrier, connect from Madrid to Lanzarote. Many cruise ships call on Lanzarote, especially on spring transatlantic crossings.

**When to Go:**  
The Canaries' mild year-round climate makes winter the best season for tourism. The islands are extremely popular with British Europeans escaping the cold, snowy weather at home. As winter is the airlines' low season, U.S. to Spain airfares may be half the summer price. Though Lanzarote is drier than the rest of the Canaries, it is wise to take an umbrella just in case. The fall and winter months are the island's wettest, with occasional showers during storms. Lanzarote's winter temperature averages in the mid 50's. Spring and fall temperatures are in the high 60's to low 70's. The summer temperature hovers in the 70's.

**Where to Stay:**  
There are many 4- and 5-star hotels and resorts on the island, particularly in Puerto del Carmen. Paradores Nacionales de Turismo ("paradores") are State-run hotels offering the same services and amenities as hotels, often set in historic buildings such as castles, palaces, convents and monasteries. They generally have excellent cuisine. Hostales are modest hotels or inns, with or without meals. Penhouses, or guest houses, are usually family-run and include meals.

**ARRECIFE:**  
Arrecife Gran Hotel, on the waterfront with a view of 16th-century Castillo San Gabriel.  
Parador Nacional, next door to the Arrecife Gran Hotel on the waterfront.

**COSTA TEGÜISE:**  
Hotel Lanzarote Beach club, Avenida de las Islas, 81 52 12. 4-star.  
Hotel Oasis, Avenida del Mar, 59 04 10. 4-star.  
Hotel Solmar, Avenida de las Islas, 59 04 20. 5-star.

**PUERTO DEL CARMEN:**  
Amigo de la Playa, Avenida de las Playas, 82 65 77. 4-star.  
Hotel Marisol Playa, Playa de los Pocillos, 82 64 05. 5-star.

**Hotel Lanzarote Village, Playa de los Pocillos, 51 13 44. 4-star.**

**Shopping:**  
Shops open between 8 and 9 a.m., close for lunch from noon or 1 until 2 or 3 and re-open until 6 or 8 p.m. Most shops are closed Saturday afternoon and Sunday, but in tourist areas some may be open 7 days a week until 11 p.m. Although all of the Canary Islands sell duty-free items, Lanzarote's selection of electronics, cameras and watches is no as good as the other islands'. Lanzarote's best shopping is for local arts and crafts, wickerwork, embroidery, lace "rosesets," polished volcanic stone, pottery and the guitar-like timple.

**Where to Eat:**  
Mealtimes in Spain are late. Restaurants generally serve lunch from 1:30-3:30 and dinner from 8:30-11:30. In the tourist areas hours may vary, and some restaurants may remain open all day. Water is probably potable, but to be safe drink bottled water opened in front of you.

**ARRECIFE:**  
Castillo de San Jose, 81 30 60.  
Guigus, Avenida Triana 7.

**El Majo, Avenida R. Gonzales 10.  
Picasso, Avenida Jose Bethencourt 23.**

**COSTA TEGÜISE:**  
Copacabana Garden, Avenida del Mar, No tel.  
El Pescador, Pueblo Marinero, 59 08 74.  
La Jordana, Lanzarote Bay, 59 03 28.

**PUERTO DEL CARMEN:**  
Bahia Tropical, Avenida de las Playas, No tel.  
Brasil, Calle los Dragos, 51 25 65.  
La Ola, Avenida de las Playas, 82 60 02.  
Playa Mar, Avenida de las Playas, No tel.  
Tres Copas, Calle Bajamar, 82 50 06.

**TIMANEAYA NATIONAL PARK:**  
El Diabolo, Montañas del Fuego.  
For More Information:  
On Lanzarote, the tourist information office is in Arrecife at Parque Municipal, 81 18 60.

*Note: The international country calling code for Spain is 34. The area code for Lanzarote is 928.*

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# VISIT PARIS IN APRIL

By Jerry Wallis

The City of Lights attracted its first inhabitants to the banks of the Seine River 2,000 years ago.

Turbulent times were ahead for Paris, but it carried on with its art, culture and architecture. Just 18 years after the city fell to the Prussians, Paris hosted a World Exhibition in 1889 in the shadow of the monument that has since become a symbol of the city's ability to endure. And it is still from the top of that massive but graceful structure, the Eiffel Tower, that tourists can get the best view of a city whose history is intertwined with that of Europe.

Just across the Seine from the tower is the Palais de Chaillot, built by Napoleon for his son, who was the King of Rome. The former palace now houses a theater and several museums. The Trocadero Gardens are just outside.

The sheer size of Paris makes a bus tour worthwhile. This is a perfect way to become oriented to the city, as well as an opportunity to learn a little of its history. Some tours allow you to get on or off at will, catching the next bus when it comes along. Some also feature tickets that allow you to ride free the next day, so you don't have to rush to complete the tour and can pick it up again at any point along the route.

Sitting and watching out the window of a bus is a great way to get a first view of Napoleon's Tomb, the Louvre, the Grand Palace, Notre Dame, the Paris Opera House and the myriad other monuments and museums. It's also a chance to appreciate how the vast public spaces, the gardens, parks and squares, contribute to the city's reputation as one of the most beautiful places in the world.

Once oriented, further exploration of Paris on foot is invaluable. Turning a strange corner and finding yourself in the middle of a booksellers market along the river or at the entrance of a courtyard surrounded by small and excellent restaurants is thrilling.

First, however, you have to get away from your hotel and into the neighborhoods. Fortunately, connecting all of Paris is the Metro, the city's clean, efficient and inexpensive subway system that first opened in 1900. It offers convenient access to all parts of Paris while avoiding the sometimes horrendous traffic.

The Arc de Triomphe, built to honor the French military, is one of those Metro stops. The arch, commissioned by Napoleon in 1806, but not completed until some 30 years later, rises at the intersection of 12 avenues. It stands above the tomb of the Unknown Soldier and commemorates the great victories and generals of the French military.

From the arch, an underground passage leads to the Avenue de Champs-Élysées, probably the most famous street in all Paris. A Sunday stroll down the avenue offers an opportunity to rub shoulders with thousands of Parisians window shopping at the boulevard's many upscale shops. Sit down to lunch with them at the McDonald's, which is one of the busiest in Europe and features a sizable gift shop of its own. Or enjoy a drink at an outdoor café.

Another area worth exploration is the Ile de la Cité, the site of Notre Dame, and the nearby Ile St. Louis, both of which are islands in the Seine.

The great Gothic cathedral, which took almost 200 years to build, features twin towers that rise 226 feet above the river. Its dramatic flying buttresses help make the structure itself one of the city's great works of art.

Inside, where kings and emperors alike have been crowned, the cathedral can accommodate

6,500 people. Light from the 30-foot rose window shines on a statue of the Virgin and Child, one of hundreds of sculptures that decorate Notre Dame both inside and out.

To the rear of the cathedral is the John XXIII Square, a beautiful and popular formal garden that offers splendid views of Notre Dame. Across from the cathedral on the other side of the island is the Palace of Justice, the city's great courthouse.

On the smaller Ile St. Louis are mansions dating back 300 years and a church that features a rare iron clock.

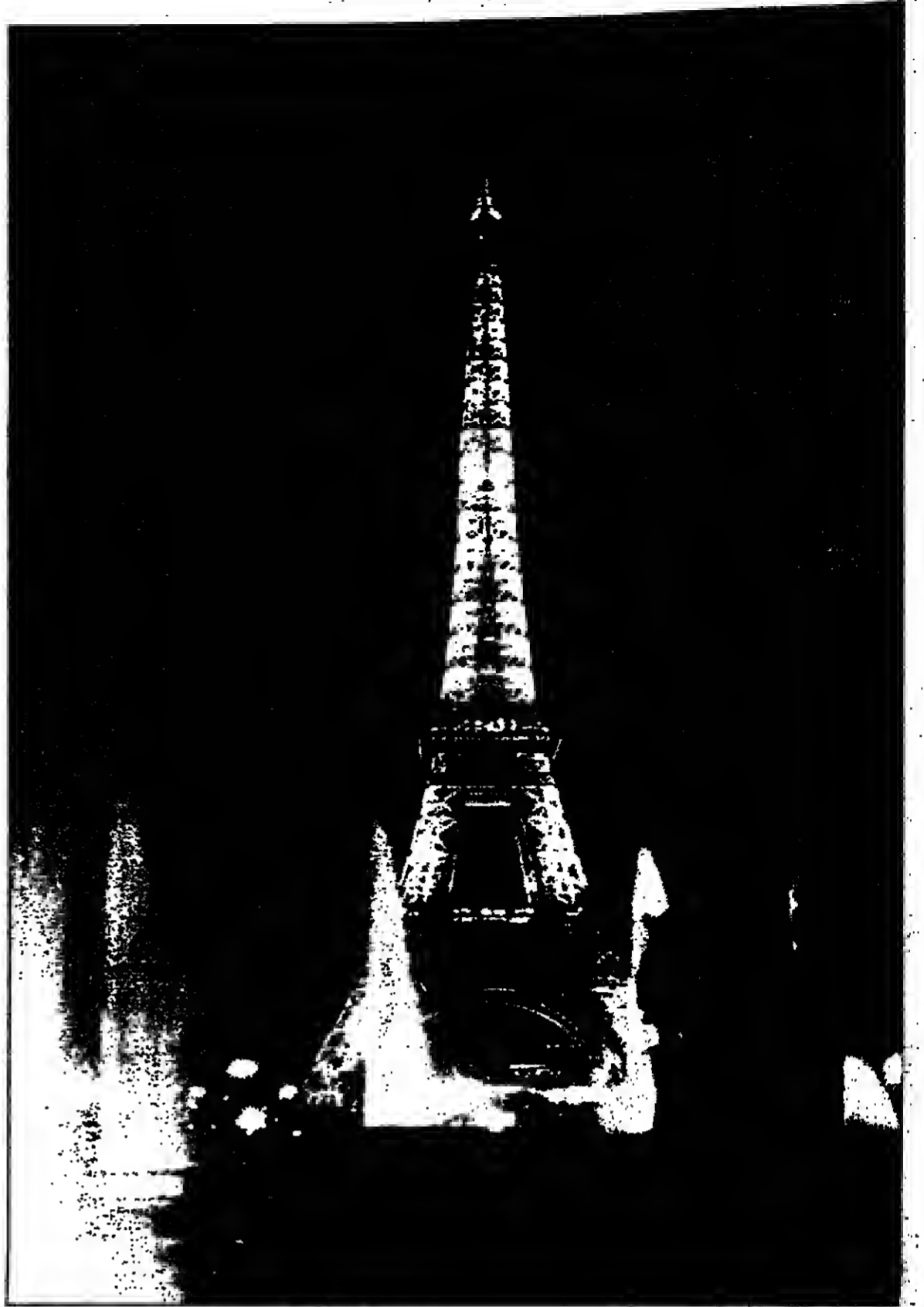
Paris is not just about the past. In the La Villette section on the northwest side of Paris is the City of Science and Industry, a major museum where the exhibits include a planetarium, aquarium and greenhouse. Nearby are an actual submarine, a Cinax in which patrons "experience" a movie in a hydraulic capsule and an Omnimax theater inside a steel dome that's 118 feet in diameter.

Also modern is the Forum des Halles, a 17-acre underground shopping mall northwest of the Louvre. Or, for shopping with a more traditional flavor, there's the Galleries Lafayette, which bills itself as "The department store capital of fashion," and is located by the Paris Opera House.

After dark, there's jazz Parisian style in the clubs located in the city's famous Latin Quarter near the Sorbonne. Nightclubs, theaters and cinemas also line the Boulevard de Clichy in Montmartre on the city's north side, site of the Moulin Rouge.

Day or night, rain or shine, past or present, war or peace, Paris will continue to delight those who visit the city of lights.

Jerry Wallis is a freelance writer.



The Eiffel Tower dominates Paris by night as well as by day.



A crowded afternoon on Champs-Élysées.

## The Louvre

By Jerry Wallis

The French tell a joke about a tourist who, arriving at the Louvre in Paris by taxi, tells the driver to wait.

That could be a very long wait. The Louvre, originally a fortress on the north bank of the Seine River, (then a royal palace), houses more than 300,000 works of art. Unless you're just popping in for a quick look at Leonardo DaVinci's "Mona Lisa," any visit to the Louvre is going to require an investment of time.

The Louvre is one of many museums, both big and small, which compete for the attention of visitors to Paris. But it's by far the most impressive. Opened by the French Republic in 1793, the Musée

du Louvre is now nearing the end of an ongoing development project which is scheduled to be completed by 1997. Part of that project is the museum's main entrance, the shining, 65-foot high glass pyramid designed by architect I.M. Pei.

Below the shimmering pyramid is the museum's reception area, which connects to a gleaming and modern shopping mall (directly accessible from the Paris Metro). This is where the Louvre adventure begins.

The adventure involves a trip through the very history of art, from the days of ancient Egypt to the modern era; it's also a journey through the Roman, Greek, Oriental, Middle Eastern and European cultures which produced the artists whose works are on view in the Louvre.

Divided into the Denon, Richelieu and Sully departments, the treasures of the Louvre are displayed within the museum's two wings.

Bathed in light at the end of one of these corridors is the renowned "Venus de Milo," one of many of the most famous at the world-famous Louvre.

## Canary Islands From page 3

that tourism accounts for 75 percent of the Canary Islands' revenue.

Waterfront cafés along Avenida de las Playas ("Avenue of the Beaches") serve refreshing local specialties on terraces trimmed with adobe pots of scarlet geraniums. "Papas arrugadas" are savory potatoes boiled in salty water, their skins intact. "Sancocho con mojo colorado" is a spicy stew.

Fishing is very important to the island, and this is reflected in its cuisine. "Vieja" is a delicious fish, while another favorite seafood dish is grouper spiced with "mojo canario" sauce.

Three Canarian beverages worth a try are banana liqueur, a smooth blend of rum and palm sap called "ronnie" and "mistela," earthy coffee brewed with sugar and brandy.

Island, Lanzarote is equally appealing. An "autopista," or superhighway, leads from the coast to La Geria. Rugged cactus and sturdy palm trees thrive in this desolate, windswept yet fertile region in the island's southwest corner.

La Geria's rich volcanic soil nurtures crops of corn, onions, potatoes, tomatoes, beets, sugar cane and, foremost, grapes. La Geria is the heart of Lanzarote's wine country. Man and nature have worked together to preserve this small, though spirited, industry.

Malmsey and muscatel are Lanzarote's most common wines. These are produced from the Malvasia grape which, when grown in a warm climate, yields robust, sweet wines.

The Catholic church planted the first grape vines to supply wine for Mass. By the mid-16th century the island's commercial wine trade had begun. Most of the wines were consumed abroad, especially in England. But even the finest brand, Vidonia, could not

compare to vintages from mainland Spain or Madeira. Wine remained Lanzarote's staple product until 1853, when a disease ravaged the vineyards.

Wine is still produced on Lanzarote but the process is time-consuming, expensive and beset with obstacles. One hurdle is the harsh winds. For shelter, each vine is planted inside an eight to 10-foot-wide crater ringed by a two- to three-foot-high wall of volcanic stone called a "zoco."

Another problem is the water shortage. The solution is natural irrigation provided by "picous," black volcanic cinders which absorb moisture from nocturnal dews, condense it and then deposit it into the ground.

Tours often stop in Yaiza, on La Geria's southern edge 25 miles south of Arrecife, for wine tasting. Homes in this modest hamlet are in typical Lanzarote style. Whitewashed houses shimmer in the bright sunlight, their doors, balconies and windowsills painted emerald or cobalt. Each home has a flat roof to collect the occasional rain and a neat, drought-proof garden of cactus and palms.

From Yaiza, it is only a few miles north to Timanfaya National Park. Geysers steam skyward in this geothermal hot spot. Volcanic boulders and glassy black obsidian dot the land.

"Malpais," colorful yet eerie sculptures of petrified lava steams, blanket what were once orchard lands.

Early chroniclers described Lanzarote as green and moist, but a series of volcanic eruptions in 1730 devastated the southern half of the island, changing its face forever. Created during this cataclysm were Timanfaya's Montañas del Fuego, or "Mountains of Fire." Legend says 11 villages are entombed under this landscape of some 300 volcanic cones, stretching as far as the eye can see. In 1825 another blast, accompanied by earthquakes, struck Timanfaya, causing even more ruin.

## CAMEL RIDES

Timanfaya's Hilario Mountain is the site of one of the island's main tourist attractions: camel rides. Dromedary (one-humped) Camels were originally brought to Lanzarote as beasts of burden because they are well-suited to rugged, dry conditions. Camels can survive for several days without water, and their immense feet are ideal for walking on sand.

Shortly after sunrise, villagers from Uga lead their 300-odd camels a few miles down the road to the foot of Hilario Mountain. Roped together in convoys of five or six, the camels are quite a sight. (Is this Camel-ot?)

Because camels have earned a reputation for nasty behavior such as biting and spitting at people and other camels, these animals are muzzled.

Unlike Egypt or Morocco, where wary riders perch precariously atop the hump on makeshift saddles of rugs or blankets, these are deluxe camels with chairs. Cinched around each animal is a saddle with a wooden seat mounted on either side. Two passengers ride at a time, one per side, ballast bags affixed to the lighter person's chair for balance.

As the 30-minute ride begins guides warn passengers to hold on tight, sage advice. Camel rides are anything but smooth, with abrupt

dips backwards and forwards, and there are no seat belts. Attesting to the terror of previous passengers, the paint on the grab post has been entirely worn off.

The lumbering fleet stops at a lookout point on Hilario Mountain, from which riders can admire the sweeping panorama of the park below.

Only a few minutes' drive from the camels is the heart of Las Montañas del Fuego, where the ground temperature reaches a searing 752 degrees Fahrenheit. Two demonstrations at the Isolate de Hilario visitors' center here prove that the name "Fire Mountains" is no exaggeration.

First, the guide fastens a brambly tumbleweed to a

long stick and pokes it into a pit in the ground. Within seconds the weed bursts into flame.

Next, the guide pours a kettle of cold water into a narrow hole and stands clear as it vaporizes into a cloud of steam, jetting skyward like a geyser.

Perched atop Isolate de Hilario is the Restaurante El Diablo. Dinners are treated to the finest view in Timanfaya while enjoying entrees baked with the earth's natural heat, a fitting finale to a visit to Fire Mountain.

Belinda E. Bullock is a freelance writer.



Roped together in convoys of five or six, the camels are quite a sight.

Photo courtesy of Spanish Tourism Board



# BUSINESS & FINANCE

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1996

## France, China hammer out lucrative trade agreements

Activists protest deals with 'violators of human rights'

PARIS (AP) - France and China finalized multi-billion-dollar trade deals yesterday, despite angry protests by human rights groups pressing Beijing to free political prisoners and halt executions.

Amnesty International activists unfurled a banner across the Champs-Elysees and planned a mass near the Eiffel Tower to protest Premier Li Peng's first visit here since China cracked down on a pro-democracy movement in 1989.

Carefully shielded from the uproar raging around the French capital, Li spent the day in the lavishly decorated Foreign Ministry building on the Seine. He met with French Prime Minister Alain Juppe to discuss lucrative trade agreements.

A source close to the contract talks said China had agreed to buy 33 Airbus jetliners, including three A340s and 30 A320s worth \$1.5 billion. The contract would be a boon for the European consortium, hit hard by defense cuts.

Other agreements included contracts for the expansion of a Citroen auto plant, construction of a gas liquefaction plant and a three-year grain sale, the source said on condition of anonymity.

Li was expected to sign the accords last night with Juppe, who was hosting a dinner for Li.

France, which accounts for just two percent of China's import market, hopes Li's four-day stay will improve Sino-French relations and bolster trade ties. France lags behind Germany, which has 6% of the Chinese market, and the US with 13%.

Human rights groups said that trade was at too high a price.

"Li Peng is at the head of a government that, under cover of economic openness, doesn't hesitate to reduce to slavery several million men and women by sending them to work camps," protest organizers said in a statement.

More than 40 groups - including Taiwanese, Tibetans, the Greens party and the France Freedom Foundation headed by former first lady Danielle Mitter-



Several dozen demonstrators from Amnesty International are surrounded by police yesterday as they wave banners protesting the official visit to France of Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng. (Reuters)

rand - demanded China release political prisoners and end "the oppression of Tibet."

Amnesty International also criticized China for its executions and accused it of torture.

"Li Peng ignores human rights. We don't," read an Amnesty International banner unfurled across the Champs Elysees. Police quickly broke up the demonstration and detained up to 150 jarring activists.

French authorities aimed to

keep protests at a minimum, after Li was hounded when he visited Germany in 1994 and several European countries in 1992.

Foreign Minister Hervé de Charette defended France's China policy, saying that with close ties, Paris "can hope to make China move."

"It's still a strict, Communist regime," he said, but added: "I don't think we can be indifferent, blind, distant toward a country that is in full transformation."

"Will we sacrifice human rights for trade? That's out of the question. It's rather about having a

clearer view of what's happening," he said.

Relations between France and China have improved since France pledged two years ago to stop selling arms to Taiwan, which bought 60 Mirage fighters in 1992.

By hosting Li, France could capitalize on the chill in relations with Washington since China staged war games and missile firings last month in an attempt to cool nationalist sentiment in Taiwan, which China claims as a province.

US aircraft carriers were dispatched to the area, while France stayed mum.

The US, which dominates China's jetliner market, continues to grant Beijing preferential trade privileges, despite human rights concerns.

The depth of the Chinese delegation underscored the importance Beijing placed on the visit. Accompanying Li are Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, Trade Minister Wa Yi and other officials.

Li was to visit the Airbus assembly plant in the southern city of Toulouse on Saturday before leaving for Beijing.

## EU keeps UK beef ban

BRUSSELS (AP) - The European Union refused yesterday to relax the worldwide ban on British beef after several EU countries shot down proposals to allow export of some beef-based products.

"The ban has not changed," EU agriculture spokesman Gery Kieley said after a daylong meeting of senior veterinary officials from the 15 EU countries.

The decision came despite advice from a panel of independent scientists Tuesday that it was safe to resume British exports of beef fat and gelatin made from bolted-down cattle carcasses.

Those materials are widely used in a range of products - including soap, cosmetics, glue, candy and ice cream.

The EU embargoed all British beef and beef products March 27, as fear grew that humans could contract a deadly illness related to mad cow disease, a brain-wasting cattle ailment that has rav-

aged herds in Britain. Kieley said yesterday's meeting showed a clear majority of EU nations want Britain to present a detailed plan to contain mad cow disease before they consider any alteration to the ban.

"The member states are linking any easing of the ban to a clear control and eradication plan from Britain," Kieley said.

Britain agreed last week to present a plan by the end of the month to destroy some 4.7 million cattle at risk for the disease and impose other safeguards to protect public health.

But Britain had hoped the veterinary committee would be swayed immediately by advice from the EU's scientific advisory panel to drop gelatin and fat from the list of banned goods.

The World Health Organization last week also found no risk to human health from those products.

While Britain has pressed for

respect of such scientific advice, its EU partners are under pressure to reassure the public that beef is safe and protect domestic beef producers from any taint.

Britain sparked consumer panic and sent beef prices plunging across the EU with its March 20 announcement that mad cow disease is probably linked to the fatal Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease in humans.

The export ban is indefinite, although EU nations promised to review the policy by May 7 in light of new safeguards enforced by Britain.

Britain has struggled unsuccessfully to wipe out mad cow disease, formally known as bovine spongiform encephalopathy, since it broke out in British herds a decade ago.

About 160,000 British cattle have been destroyed since then, while only 150 cases of the disease have been found elsewhere in the EU.

## EU finance chief urges full membership in new Euro monetary union

BRUSSELS (AP) - The European Union risks exchange rate turmoil unless nations that adopt the future euro-money coordinate monetary policy with those that retain their national currencies, the EU finance chief said yesterday.

"We need monetary solidarity to ensure exchange rate stability," Finance Commissioner Yves-Thibault de Silguy told a news conference. "Strong coordination of economic and monetary policy is indispensable."

Relations between the so-called "ins" and "outs" of European monetary union are expected to "dominate" talks this weekend among finance ministers and central bankers from the 15 EU nations.

The meeting in Verona, Italy, will focus on plans to tie the value of the future Euro common currency - the euro - to that of remaining national currencies.

The launch of the euro is scheduled for January 1, 1999. But only nations meeting strict fiscal targets will be permitted to adopt it from the start. Others will keep on using existing currencies.

Currently, only tiny Luxembourg meets all the criteria. EU forecasts show Germany, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, Finland and possibly others hitting the targets by the 1997 deadline.

Whether they join the currency union or not, de Silguy said all EU members should work for the convergence of their economies by sticking to targets of low inflation and sound public finances.

Many nations also want a system of exchange rate controls to prevent nations with weak currencies to make their goods cheaper than in those countries dealing in the strong euro.

The British government will be under pressure in Verona to resist any plan for fixed exchange rates between the pound and the euro.

Although Britain is widely expected to opt out of the single currency, "euro-skeptics" in the ruling Conservative party are determined the EU should not extend its influence by placing restrictions on the value of the pound.

De Silguy dodged questions about British press reports that other nations will threaten Britain with trade sanctions if the value of the pound against the euro is cut too much.

"That is putting the cart before the horse," he said. "We have to put new monetary system in place."

The EU already operates a system of semi-fixed exchange rates between its currencies, but Britain pulled out in 1992 in a move euro-skeptics hail as sparking a recovery in the British economy.

In August 1993, the EU relaxed the fluctuation limits which had been pushed to breaking point by market pressures that cut values of weaker currencies.

Britain has refused to rejoin the revamped "exchange rate mechanism," which now limits fluctuations to 15 percent on either side of a central rate.

## EU economies stand to gain from stronger dollar

BRUSSELS (Reuters) - A rebound in Europe's main economies later this year is looking like a more attractive bet as the US continues to show signs of renewed economic vigor.

Analysts say the gathering strength in the US economy, evidenced recently by unexpectedly robust jobs figures for March, could lay the foundation for a dollar rebound which allows a further fall in European interest rates.

"The main point of the transmission mechanism is via interest rate effects," says Robin Marshall, chief economist at Chase Manhattan Bank in London. "A higher dollar makes it easier for many countries to get interest rates down given the change in exchange rates."

The benefits of a stronger dollar to European economies are two-fold, say analysts. First, there is what many refer to as the price effect - a robust dollar aids European exporters who have been at a competitive disadvantage given their strong currencies.

This is particularly the case for German businesses who have suffered under the weight of a strong mark.

A second and perhaps more important influence is the degree to which a healthier dollar gives European central banks more

leeway in easing monetary policy.

As the dollar rises against the mark there is a tendency to see other European currencies gain as well. Such a development minimizes the exchange rate risk of easier credit policies.

## EU unveils \$1.3 billion aid plan for small firms

BRUSSELS (AP) - The European Union unveiled a \$1.3 billion financial aid package for small businesses yesterday as part of plans to combat Europe's stubbornly high unemployment.

EU Finance Commissioner Yves-Thibault de Silguy said the objective was to create 30,000 jobs a year with loan guarantees that help small-businesses get credit at lower borrowing costs.

Priority will be given to companies with fewer than 50 employees.

"Such firms are essential to employment growth, but often have problems securing financing because banks consider them a relatively high credit risk," de Silguy told a news conference.

Money to cover the loans will come from the Luxembourg-based European Investment Fund. The plan must first be approved by the 15 EU governments.

The fund will cover 50 percent of the total value of most loans. For companies investing in cross-border projects involving more than one EU nation, 75% of a loan may be covered.

The aid is part of a plan by EU Commission President Jacques Santer to facilitate job creation.

Santer says reducing the EU's 11% jobless rate is the EU's top priority. He has called a "social summit" of European business and labor leaders later this month to seek common ground on how to best to get the EU's 18 million unemployment back to work.

Santer is seeking to persuade reluctant EU governments to transfer \$2.5b. in surplus Union funds to support labor-intensive public works projects and industrial research efforts.

Last year, the European Investment Fund used about 12% of its \$1.7b. in loan guarantees for small business activities.

The fund was established in 1994 at a summit of EU leaders in Edinburgh, Scotland, to promote economic growth.

### MINISTRY OF FINANCE Accountant General's Office

#### Tender No. 96/1/D.A. Shipment of Grain in American Flag Vessels

In connection with the need to meet the Government's undertaking regarding the carriage of goods in American flag vessels, the Accountant General invites relevant proposals, which should give rates for the shipment of grain from the United States to Israel in American flag vessels, for the period between April 28, 1996, and September 30, 1996. Proposals should be submitted to the Ministry of Finance by April 28, 1996 (9 a.m.).

Details are available from Mr. I. Klein and Mr. Y. Shlein, Department of the Accountant General, Ministry of Finance, 1 Naplan St., Jerusalem, Room 6335, Tel. 02-317457, 02-317461.

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### MINISTRY OF FINANCE - Accountant General

#### Tender No. 8/96: Provision of Office Furniture for Government Offices

Bids are invited for the supply of office furniture for government agencies, located throughout Israel.

Pre-conditions for Participating in the Tender

The minimum conditions for participating in the tender are:

- Having at least 5 years' experience in the office furniture branch.
- Having experience in supplying office furniture to large organizations.
- The capability of supplying all the types of furniture listed in the specifications in Section 2 of the tender, with no quantity limitations and no limitation as to where the furniture is to be delivered.

The furniture detailed in Section 2 of the tender includes: cupboards, small closets, shelf units, file storage units, trolleys, tables, under-table drawer units, seating, computer-related furniture.

Bids submitted by parties who do not meet these conditions will be disqualified. Preference will be given to Israeli manufactured goods, in accordance with the mandatory tender regulations.

Bidders who wish to receive such preference should attach to their bid an auditor's statement of the percentage of the bid price represented by Israeli goods. Preference will be given to goods manufactured in areas, nominated to receive national preference, in accordance with the mandatory tender regulations. To receive such preference, bidders are required to submit a declaration that their bid is based on goods originating in Development Area Alef or Development Area Bet. An auditor's declaration, confirming the veracity of the bidder's declaration, should be attached.

A meeting of bidders will be held on April 30, 1996, in the meetings hall, Ministry of Finance, 3rd floor, 1 Rehov Kaplan, Jerusalem, at 1:30 p.m.

Suppliers participating in the tender should come to this meeting, bringing all the tender documents. Participation in this meeting is essential and is a pre-condition for participating in the tender. Please come on time.

Last date for submitting bids: Monday, May 20, 1996, at 12 noon. The tender documents are obtainable from the office of the Accountant General, Tenders and Buying Dept., Min. of Finance Building, 1 Rehov Kaplan, Jerusalem, 7th floor, Room 714 or 715.

Further particulars from 02-317428, 02-317418. No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid.

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Patch (foreign currency deposit rates) (04.96)			
Currency (deposit base)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.000	4.000	4.000
Pound sterling (£100,000)	4.250	4.250	4.250
German mark (DM 250,000)	4.275	4.275	4.275
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	4.250	4.250	4.250
Yen (JP 1 million yen)	4.250	4.250	4.250

CHECKS AND TRANSFERS	BANKNOTES	Rep.
U.S. dollar	3.1896	3.1810
German mark	4.2528	4.2528
Pound sterling	2.1315	2.1315
French franc	4.8228	4.8228
Japanese yen (100)	0.6225	0.6225
Dutch florin	1.9384	1.9384
Swiss franc	2.8118	2.8118
Swedish krona	0.4828	0.4828
Norwegian krona	0.4828	0.4828
Denmark krona	0.4828	0.4828
Finland mark	0.4828	0.4828
Canadian dollar	0.6828	0.6828
Australian dollar	2.2828	2.2828
S. African rand	0.7828	0.7828
Belgian franc (100)	1.2828	1.2828
Austrian schilling (10)	1.9828	1.9828
Italian lira (1000)	2.0203	2.0203
Lydenen denar	4.2828	4.2828
Egyptian pound	0.8828	0.8828
ECU	3.9084	3.9084
Irish punt	4.9012	4.9012
Spanish peseta (100)	2.5127	2.5127

02-317428

Swiss skeptical over proposed merger between CS Holding, UBS

ZURICH (Reuters) - CS Holding's suggested merger with Union Bank of Switzerland (UBS) was greeted with skepticism yesterday...

UBS's bearer shares slipped Sfr22 to 1,295, and CS Holding's registered shares were Sfr1.50 lower at 113.50.

On Tuesday confirming its chairman Rainer Gut had raised the idea of a possible merger in a recent telephone conversation with UBS chairman Nikolaus Sean.

Industry analysts who attended a UBS financial presentation yesterday with chief executive Mathis Cahillavetta, said they did not get the impression UBS's managers were preparing for a merger.

Swiss newspapers said the banks had so much in common that they would not bring much new to each other.

UBS, which has confirmed discussing the merger idea with CS Holdings, said its board would meet today to discuss the proposal and planned to issue a statement afterwards.

But it denied trying to force UBS into a linkup or plans to back dissident UBS shareholder Martio Eberer at the annual meeting.

But Bank Vontobel's Susanne Borer said a merger would be a matter for the board of directors rather than the executive committee.

A merger, which would create the world's second biggest bank after Japan's recently merged Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi Ltd, might also be politically unacceptable because it could cost up to 10,000 jobs in Switzerland.

The merger speculation began on Tuesday after a leading Swiss daily, the Tages Anzeiger, said CS Holding was trying to make UBS accept a merger by threatening to vote against UBS management at the bank's annual meeting next Tuesday.

EBER, whose BK Visio investment fund is one of UBS's biggest shareholders, wants to stop Robert Studer being elected UBS chairman to replace Sean. Studer stepped down as chief executive on February 29.

The key issue was whether Studer would overcome Eberer's opposition to become the new chairman.

The Zurich stock market, which gave merger talk a thumbs-up on Tuesday by driving the CS Holding and UBS share prices higher, had second thoughts yesterday.

The newspaper called CS Holding's threat "nasty blackmail."

CS Holding, parent of Credit Suisse bank, issued a statement

on Tuesday confirming its chairman Rainer Gut had raised the idea of a possible merger in a recent telephone conversation with UBS chairman Nikolaus Sean.

European shares hit record as dollar rallies

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - A surging dollar pushed European bourses to record highs yesterday as the US currency hit its highest level against the German mark in seven-months and a 26-month peak against the yen.

high at 1.5045 marks after hitting 1.5020 yesterday.

German, Dutch and Norwegian shares all hit records, with traders citing the dollar's strength as the major influence.

Although rising German unemployment confirmed contrasting US and German labor market trends this year, the rise was slightly lower than expectations and deprived the dollar of the extra fuel to immediately sustain a move above 1.5050.

World benchmark Brent blend crude oil also topped \$21 a barrel for the first time in nearly four years as traders rushed to replenish dwindling gasoline inventories.

Against the yen, the dollar touched 108.70 yen overnight and early European trade, a 26-month high.

On London's International Petroleum Exchange, Brent futures for May delivery touched as high as \$21.49, up 79 cents on the day and the highest level since July 1992.

Earlier, Bank of Japan governor Yasuo Matsuoka said monetary policy would emphasize economic recovery, while a 40% drop in Japan's February current account surplus was seen as yen negative.

On Europe's bourses, German investors poured funds into export-oriented companies as the dollar pushed over 1.50 marks.

British shares finished higher for the third trading day as investors remained convinced that European interest rates are headed lower.

The DAX share index hit a record session closing high of 2,530.02 points, up 1.07 percent on the day and just off a new-all time high of 2,531.24 set in IBIS computer trade.

"This market is still trading in a range but the trend is higher. Investors are counting at least another rate cut and maybe another takeover bid," one dealer said.

The other two major European bourses, London and Paris, also ended the day with gains, despite Wall Street's mixed performance.

The FTSE Index closed 8.8 points firmer at 3,767.4, just 13.9 points below its all-time closing high of 3,781.3 reached on February 2.

Analysts said the dollar's rise was fueled by expectations of a wideening interest rate gap between the US and Germany.

Domestic rate cut hopes were partly behind a 12-point rise in Paris stocks, with investors looking the Bank of France to cut rates today.

While short-term interest rate markets still expect another half-point cut in the German discount rate, they now expect a quarter-point rise in the 5.25% US Federal funds target rate within three months.

Dealers said the dollar was now gunning for last September's

Joblessness falls slightly in Germany

NUREMBERG (AP) - Unemployment in Germany dipped to 10.8 percent last month from 11.1% in February, the Federal Labor Office said yesterday.

According to the office, 4.141 million people were out of work last month, 129,200 fewer than in February.

Unusually cold weather and a "recessional development" in the construction industry kept the jobless picture from making any better improvement, the labor office said.

Germany is teetering on the edge of a recession, but government officials say they think the economy will start to grow toward the end of the year.

However, economists say it may take longer for any economic upswing to have an effect on unemployment, which has hit postwar highs this year.

US productivity has best showing in 3 years

WASHINGTON (AP) - The productivity of the American workplace grew 1.1 percent in 1995, the best performance in three years despite a sharp drop during the final three months.

The Labor Department said yesterday the growth in nonfarm productivity was the strongest since it advanced 3.2% in 1992, but still weaker than during the decades following World War II.

Productivity grew 0.2% in 1993 and 0.5% in 1994. The improvement last year was unchanged from the government's initial estimate a month ago.

Productivity, which measures output per number of hours worked, is considered a key element of Americans' standard of living.

Greater efficiency means businesses can increase employees' wages without raising prices since workers are producing more with the same amount of work.

But a lack of productivity gains could lead to stagnant wages and living standards.

Businesses would be reluctant to increase prices to pay for higher wages, fearing the added cost would price their products out of the market.

Despite the 1.1% advance last year, productivity growth was less than half the rate of the 1950s and 1960s.

And during the October-December quarter, it actually fell 1% at a seasonally adjusted annual rate, even bigger than the 0.5% drop in the initial report.

It was the first decline since a 1.1% decrease in the January-March period of 1995.

Economists argue over the cause of recent productivity gains.

Some contend the improvement is the result of greater efficiency as businesses reduce and restructure their work forces and invest in high-tech equipment.

Others maintain it merely is the result of the economic recovery and that as the business cycle matures and levels off, productivity gains will slow.

Still, many analysts believe productivity rebounded as output increased during the first three months of this year, although they say growth was held back by severe weather and the effects of two partial federal government shutdowns.

Lawyers for BCCI officials conclude final arguments

ABU DHABI (Reuters) - Lawyers for former officials of the collapsed bank BCCI yesterday ended closing arguments in an appeal against jail terms and some \$9 billion in civil damages, attorneys said.

"The court will issue a verdict on June 9. Lawyers have finished their final arguments," said an attorney after the hearing.

Thirteen former officials of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) were tried

on charges including fraud, forgery and misappropriation of funds in Abu Dhabi, where the disgraced bank had its main offices.

All but one of the officials were sentenced in 1994 to prison terms and civil damages were set at about \$9b.

Of the 12 who were sentenced, eight have served their terms but are not allowed to leave the UAE, while their appeal proceedings continue.

Dow closes sharply lower

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Blue-chip stocks closed sharply lower in a fourth straight session of losses yesterday amid a bout of nervousness about corporate profits and the economy.

age closed down 74.43 points at 5,485.98, according to early and unofficial estimates, with losers pounding gains by a 2-1 margin on the exchange.

The Dow Jones industrial average

Big Board volume was a strong 478 million shares.

Foreign ministers to meet in Luxembourg to discuss terror

WASHINGTON (AP) - More than two dozen foreign ministers are to meet this month in Luxembourg to consider the protection of Israel against terrorism and the improvement of Palestinian security on the West Bank and in Gaza.

they know the phone number," State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said yesterday.

Saudi Arabia, Egypt and a number of other Arab states will be represented at the April 22 conference but not Syria or Lebanon. "They know the address;

Secretary of State Warren Christopher will attend the Luxembourg conference on his way home from talks in Moscow between President Clinton and Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

The ministers will discuss measures compiled by terrorism experts at their meeting in Washington.

The ceremony will include a communal recitation of Kaddish, liturgical and Yiddish folk music, speeches and remembrances, and candle-lightings.

"We regret that the change of venue causes yet another rift in an already fragmented Jewish people," said Rabbi Steve Dworken, the executive vice president of the Orthodox movement's Rabbinical Council of America (RCA). "The commemoration should rise above all denominational and ideological differences and be a cause for unity and cohesiveness."

Public events pose staggering problems for New York's Jewish community. Last December's Rabin memorial rally at Madison Square Garden, for instance, went through several fine-tunings of its theme to arrive at a compromise that would allow all segments of the community to attend.

The annual Salute to Israel parade had to change the day of its march up Fifth Avenue last year after Holocaust survivors objected to a parade being held on the same date as the annual commemoration.

Rabbi Haskel Lookstein of Kehillath Jesurun, an Orthodox congregation on Manhattan's Upper East Side, said there had been no protests when the commemoration was routinely held at Temple Emanu-el.

"This is a religious service," he said.

"I recognize that there are some Orthodox rabbis who don't want to go to a non-Orthodox synagogue, but I think it's particularly sad that this becomes an issue for a Holocaust commemoration," Lookstein said. "It increases the divisiveness and anger."

The Orthodox position infuriated others in the community.

"This is a further example of the growing militancy in the Orthodox movement," said Rabbi Amiel Hirsch, who heads the Association of Reform Zionists of America. "It shows how Ortho-

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES table with columns for Name, Price, Change, and Name, Price, Change. Includes sections for NEW YORK, LONDON, and other international markets.

Key Representative Rates table with columns for Currency, Rate, and Change.

NYSE STOCK MARKET table with columns for Index, Last, and Change.

New York market indexes table with columns for Index, Last, and Change.

Other stock market indexes table with columns for Index, Last, and Change.

Israeli stocks in NY table with columns for Stock, Last, and Change.

NYSE / AMEX table with columns for Stock, Last, and Change.

NASDAQ / over-the-counter table with columns for Stock, Last, and Change.

Commodity Trading table with columns for Commodity, Last, and Change.

LIBOR RATES table with columns for Rate, Last, and Change.

Dollar crossrates (US) table with columns for Currency, Last, and Change.

Foreign financial data courtesy of Comstock Trading Ltd. table with columns for Country, Index, Last, and Change.

US commodities table with columns for Commodity, Last, and Change.

Spot market metals (US) table with columns for Metal, Last, and Change.

New York metal futures table with columns for Metal, Last, and Change.

London metal fixes table with columns for Metal, Last, and Change.

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New York metal futures table with columns for Metal, Last, and Change.

London metal fixes table with columns for Metal, Last, and Change.

# Bulls' home streak snapped

CHICAGO (AP) - For more than a year, the Chicago Bulls defied their home court like no other team in NBA history.

Forty-four consecutive regular-season victories at the United Center. Thirty-seven straight to start this season. Both league records.

"We're so used to winning at home," Scottie Pippen said. "We had a goal of winning every game this season on our home court."

But it was not meant to be. Moody, in their fourth-to-last home game of 1995-96, the Bulls lost 98-97 to the Charlotte Hornets.

"So close to the end," Toni Kukoc said. "It hurts."

The hurt, however, can heal quickly for the Bulls, who are 66-9 overall.

"We lost," Dennis Rodman said with a shrug. "Now we go for 70."

No NBA team has won that many games in a season, and the Bulls are only four away with seven to play.

The soonest they can reach No. 70 is April 16, when they play at Milwaukee. But for that to be the record-setter, they must first win tonight at New Jersey, tomorrow at home against Philadelphia and Sunday at Cleveland.

After Milwaukee, the Bulls' finish the season with home games against Detroit and Indiana and a road date with Washington.

"We'll get 70," Pippen promised. "And I think we'll get it sooner, not later."

The Bulls are on pace to break the record set by the 1971-72 Los Angeles Lakers.

The Bulls had a great chance to win. After Kukoc missed a spinning drive in the lane with about five seconds left, Pippen, Michael Jordan and Pippen again all had good tip-in attempts. Each shot rimmed out, and the streak was over.

It was only the second regular-season defeat at the United Center for Jordan, who lost to Orlando



WHAT COMES UP MUST GO DOWN - Hornets' Kenny Anderson (c), Pete Myers and coach Alan Bristow celebrate Wainy City win. Bulls' Steve Kerr lies on the parquet. (Reuters)

EASTERN CONFERENCE					WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division					Midwest Division				
W	L	Pct.	GB	W	L	Pct.	GB		
Orlando	55	20	.733	San Antonio	55	21	.724		
New York	46	31	.592	Utah	51	25	.671		
Miami	37	38	.493	Houston	44	32	.579		
Washington	36	39	.480	Denver	33	43	.434		
Boston	30	46	.396	Minnesota	28	50	.342		
New Jersey	29	47	.382	Dallas	24	52	.318		
Philadelphia	16	60	.211	Vancouver	12	63	.160		

Central Division					Pacific Division				
W	L	Pct.	GB	W	L	Pct.	GB		
Chicago	47	29	.618	Seattle	40	16	.709		
Indiana	43	32	.573	L.A. Lakers	47	28	.627		
Cleveland	42	33	.560	Portland	40	35	.533		
Detroit	42	34	.553	Phoenix	39	37	.513		
Atlanta	38	37	.513	Sacramento	35	40	.467		
Charlotte	28	52	.347	Golden State	33	43	.434		
Milwaukee	23	56	.288	L.A. Clippers	28	48	.368		
Toronto	23	56	.288	San Antonio	24	52	.318		

do in his first game there - March 24, 1995 - after coming out of retirement. The Bulls then won their next 44 home games.

Nuggets 98, Lakers 91  
Dale Ellis scored 20 points and LaPhonso Ellis added 17 points and 13 rebounds as host Denver stayed in the playoff hunt.

The much-needed win moved Denver within two games of Sacramento for the last Western Conference playoff spot.

Nick Van Exel of the Lakers was suspended for seven games and fined an NBA-record \$25,000 yesterday for showing the referee.

The league's action against Van Exel will cost the Lakers' guard \$187,000 and keep him out of the lineup for the rest of the regular season.

The incident occurred with 3:23 left in the game. Van Exel was given a technical by referee Ron Garretson after the player questioned a call during a time out.

In the course of a subsequent argument, Garretson issued Van Exel a second technical - carrying an automatic ejection - and the point guard then shoved Garretson onto the scorer's table with his forearm.

Knicks 97, Celtics 93  
In Tuesday's action, Patrick Ewing had 26 points and 11 rebounds as host New York won their 14th straight victory over Boston.

Ewing blocked a shot by the Celtics' Pervis Ellison after the Knicks took a 95-93 lead on a pair of free throws by John Starks, Anthony Mason, who finished with 21 points and nine rebounds, then hit a layup with 48 seconds remaining to seal the victory.

The Celtics, who will miss the playoffs for the second time in three years, haven't defeated the Knicks since January 10, 1993.

Raptors 102, Bucks 96  
Alvin Robertson scored 25 points and Tracy Murray had 23 as host Toronto ended a three-game losing streak.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS:  
New York 97, Boston 93  
Detroit 111, New Jersey 94  
Denver 98, LA Lakers 91  
Toronto 102, Milwaukee 96  
Houston 90, Vancouver 84  
Portland 98, Phoenix 91  
Sacramento 95, Dallas 96

MONDAY'S RESULTS:  
Seattle 105, New York 98  
Philadelphia 82, New Jersey 79  
Washington 111, Miami 99  
Minnesota 115, Toronto 101  
Indiana 97, Atlanta 95  
Charlotte 98, Chicago 97  
San Antonio 92, Utah 91  
LA Clippers 102, Portland 89  
Dallas 104, Golden State 102

# Barcelona, Panathinaikos reach European final

PARIS (Reuters) - Barcelona knocked out holders Real Madrid 76-66 in a tense all-Spanish duel in the semifinals of the European basketball club championship on Tuesday.

Real, seeking to become the first team to retain its title since Split did it in 1991, was leading 63-62 with two minutes remaining.

But Ferran Martinez then led Barcelona to a sensational finish, scoring two points and a crucial three-pointer in succession to put his side ahead 67-63.

Barcelona kept in front until American Dan Godfred polished it off with two points in the final second to set up an exciting final showdown with Greek side Panathinaikos, which beat CSKA Moscow 81-71 in the other semifinal.

Tonight's final (live TV coverage - Channel 1, 9:30 pm) will be the first for Barcelona since the one they lost to Split in 1991 in

the last Final Four tournament held in the French capital.

Barcelona, the most consistent team in the qualifying rounds, trailed 38-34 at halftime, with Madrid's strongest asset, the dangerous Joe Aruaukas, scoring 16 points.

But Aruaukas slowed after the interval, adding only six points to his total as Barcelona fought its way back.

Ambitious Panathinaikos, which has spent millions to win at last after ending up third in the last two Final Fours, made it to the final thanks to an impressive display by former NBA star Dominique Wilkins.

Cheered by 4,000 noisy Greek fans chanting his name, explosive forward Wilkins scored 35 points for the Athens club, which has been beaten in the semifinals by bitter rivals Olympiakos in each of the last two years.

Panathinaikos made a strong start, opening a 4-0 lead in the

first two minutes with a two-pointer from Fragiskos Alvertis followed by two free throws by Nikos Ekonomou.

But CSKA, helped by the organizing skills of Vasilis Karasev, came back to lead 20-14 after 12 minutes.

The Russian club, which was seeking its first European title in a quarter century, played exciting, fast basketball but struggled to overcome the Greek defense and Panathinaikos was soon back in command, leading 36-33 at halftime.

Wilkins, who scored 15 points in the first half, moved up a gear in the second to score 20 more, including a couple of three-pointers.

For Panathinaikos Coach Bozidar Maljkovic, a European final is nothing new. He has won the title three times already with two different clubs, twice with Split and once with French side Limoges.

# Crenshaw makes emotional return to Augusta National

AUGUSTA, Georgia (AP) - The moment immediately became etched in the memory banks of sport, one of those highlights that will be repeated and replayed as long as great events and courageous performances are discussed.

As the putt dropped making him Masters champion, Ben Crenshaw buried his face in his hands, sank to a crouch and heaved in heavy sobs as caddy Carl Jackson placed a comforting hand on his shoulder.

What Crenshaw accomplished last year - winning the Masters just a week after the death of his lifelong golf teacher, Harvey Penick - was truly remarkable.

Crenshaw was not playing well enough to win. But he did. He should not have been able to overcome the emotion of losing Penick. But he did. He should not have held up as he played the final three holes knowing one mistake would cost him the tournament. But he did.

Just as difficult, perhaps, is Crenshaw's return to Augusta National Golf Club this year for today's opening round.

Crenshaw's triumph last year was his second Masters title. He likes to say that fate reached out and guided him through.

But it's likely that fate will place its hand on someone else at the Masters this year. Perhaps the perennially heartbroken like Greg Norman or Davis Love III. Perhaps a past champion looking to regain glory as Crenshaw did, like Nick Faldo or Fred Couples.

Perhaps an outsider like John Daly, Phil Mickelson or Colin Montgomerie.

All would be compelling winners, hopefully producing a champion who would move through his year in the green jacket with the same grace Crenshaw has shown.

# One representative for Palestinians at Olympics

Ruoner Majed Abu Marahil will be the first athlete to represent Palestinians at the Olympics.

"This will put Palestine on the international map of athletes," said the 30-year-old in Gaza.

A distance ruoner, Abu Marahil will compete in at least one heat of the 10,000 meters in the 1996 games in Atlanta. He will carry the Palestinian flag in the opening ceremony.

"His participation will be symbolic since only one is taking part and not the whole team," said Ahmed al-Yazji, director-general of the youth ministry.

The last time Palestinians appeared on the Olympic stage was in 1972, when 11 Israeli sportsmen at the Munich Olympics were murdered by Palestinian terrorists.

But Yazji said: "Palestinians and Israelis... have signed a peace agreement, welcomed by the world. We now have peace with Israel." (Reuters)

# Schedule makers got suckered again

QUICK, everybody: when the big hand is on the 6, and the little hand is on the 2, what time is it?

Sounds easy, but apparently telling time is something that some of our local TV schedule makers need some help with.

Take ITV's Channel 3, for example. According to three different TV schedules we checked, the Chicago Bulls-Orlando Magic game - one any NBA fan wouldn't want to miss - was scheduled for 2:30 am, so we naively set our trusty VCR to that hour to tape the game.

Rushing down to the set the following morning, we turned on the game, only to be turned off by the fact that all we taped was the fourth quarter - ITV had failed to take into consideration the changeover to Daylight Savings Time in the US over the weekend. But even counting the extra hour time difference, the game time given to the schedule makers was off.

There's really no excuse for stations not being able to plan such things in advance, and get proper times to schedule makers. At present, ITV's Channel 3 is only available to a limited number of viewers, most of them cable subscribers who pay enough to deserve better. With the NBA playoffs just around the corner, Arik Hoening & Co. should make a supreme effort to get the times right in the guides used by the public.

# SPORTSWATCH

ARYEH DEAN COHEN

While they're fine-tuning, Hoening and ITV 3 should also rethink the "more the merrier in the studio" approach. This week's game had five, count 'em, five people in the studio. That's about three too many, leading to guests stepping on each other's comments, and overwhelming the production in talk. Someone should also get that pen out of Hoening's hand, which he waves around incessantly. If he wants to be a conductor, let him go to the Rubin Academy.

SUPER Chanoel also gets points off for schedule mangling this week, mostly for promising baseball, but delivering golf. Sunday night's listings promised baseball at 11, and we were psyched for the return of *This Week in Baseball* or another week-in-review program.

Instead, we got *Inside the PGA Tour*, which looks interesting for golf fans, but wasn't too the anxious for baseball. The only redeeming feature of the hour was a great ad for golf equipment featuring Arnold Palmer, Alice Cooper, and Cooper's snake, Alice. We won't give it away so golf enthusiasts can enjoy it next week.

As for baseball, Sky News' Sportsline reporter Jeremy Thompson did a piece on the National Pastime's return to health, particularly in Baltimore. True, Thompson was a bit stuffy, but he did interview Cal Ripken, who said one of the best parts of his consecutive-game streak was to be part of "the healing process" with the fans after last year's strike. Sky deserves a save for at least supplying some baseball on a spring Sunday night.

THE basketball reduced by three quarters and the baseball game, we found solace over the weekend in... figure skating. On a recent Sunday in the US, with the major networks offering the NCAA tournament selection, the NBA, and figure skating, the skaters woo big in the ratings.

Actually, it's no wonder. The sport has tremendous appeal. The performers mix athleticism with show biz to dazzle the crowds and the judges.

Our favorite parts are the music - snippets of anything from pure Mozart to classical - and those precious moments when the skaters come off the ice and sit in what looks like one of those old quiz show isolation booths, waiting to hear their scores announced.

The tension is unbearable until the marks flash across the screen, and a great smile or a terrible scowl breaks out across their faces. Great, dramatic stuff.

# Yankees win snowy New York opener

NEW YORK (AP) - On an afternoon better suited for snowballs than baseballs, the Yankees won their home opener Tuesday, beating the Kansas City Royals 7-3.

The snow started before winner Andy Pettitte's first pitch and lasted until John Wetteland's last toss. It began as flakes, then turned to flurries and eventually, whipped by winds that never stopped blowing, became a near storm.

Rarely has a major league game been played in such wintry conditions. But because the snow never stuck - it was 40°F (4°C) at game time - the action continued without a stop. In fact, plate umpire Derryl Cousins even wore short sleeves in defiance of the bad weather.

Baseball has been plagued by snow, rain and cold this year, resulting in eight early postponements. An announced crowd of 56,329 - most of them were present at the start - and first-ball thrower Joe DiMaggio saw the Yankees win their fifth straight home opener.

Pettitte (2-0) allowed six hits in 6½ innings. At 23, he was the youngest pitcher to start a Yankees home opener since 1910.

Tigers 10, Mariners 9  
Cecil Fielder hit a grand slam, one of 10 extra-base hits by Detroit, and the Tigers bled on for a victory in their home opener.

Alan Trammell, starting his 20th season with the Tigers, and Travis Fryman also homered for Detroit. Ricky Jordan and Alex Rodriguez homered for Seattle, which also hit six doubles and two triples.

Red Sox 5, Twins 1  
Tom Gordon pitched a complete game and saw leadoff hitter Mike Greenwell drive in three runs as the Red Sox won the chilly matchup of Monday's snowed-out home opener.

Kevin Mitchell's two-run single highlighted a four-run third, and American League MVP Mo Vaughn, who had 39 homers last year, hit a two-run shot in the seventh for his first hit since.

Blue Jays 5, Angels 0  
Pat Hentgen pitched a five-hit shut-out and Charlie O'Brien hit a two-run home run and drove in two runs, powering Toronto to a home win. Playing in front of 36,316 fans, the smallest opening-day crowd in the club's 20-year history, the Blue Jays improved their record in home openers to 16-4.

Rangers 3, White Sox 2  
Visiting Texas remained baseball's

only unbeaten team at 7-0, the best start in club history.

The 1987 Milwaukee Brewers were the last American League team to start 7-0 when they set a league record by winning their first 15 games. The Atlanta Braves, in 1994, were the best major league team to start 7-0.

NATIONAL LEAGUE  
Mets 12, Reds 5  
Todd Hundley hit a two-run homer and singled home a run as part of a six-run ninth inning that sent New York to a road win.

The Mets ended a three-game losing streak by taking the lead on three consecutive RBI doubles in the fifth off John Smoltz (0-1). They sent 10 batters to the plate in the ninth against the Reds' shell-shocked bullpen to clinch it.

Pitching in short sleeves on a 37°F (3°C) night, Jason Isringhausen (1-0) allowed three runs and seven hits over seven innings. He also got his first major-league RBI with a double off in the sixth.

Breaves 3, Dodgers 1  
Ryan Klesko and Javy Lopez hit back-to-back homers in the top of the sixth inning to give John Smoltz his first win.

Smoltz (1-1), roughed up in his first start, took a four-hit batter into the eighth before giving up a walk and a double. He was replaced by Terrell Wade, who retired Brett Butler for the second out.

Closer Mark Wohlers came on and walked Mike Piazza on a 3-2 pitch to load the bases before getting Eric Karros on a grounder to shortstop for the third out.

Martins 5, Padres 2 (10)  
Devon White hit a two-run single to spark Florida's five-run 10th inning as the visiting Marlins, helped by four walks and two errors in the inning, snapped San Diego's five-game winning streak.

Fernando Valenzuela made his first start of the season for San Diego. Despite pitching deep into the count, he shut out the Marlins for 5½ innings.

TUESDAY'S NL RESULTS:  
New York 12, Cincinnati 5  
San Francisco 3, Boston 1 (10)  
Atlanta 3, Los Angeles 0  
Florida 5, San Diego 2 (10)

MONDAY'S NL RESULTS:  
Chicago 5, Colorado 6  
Los Angeles 1, Atlanta 0  
San Diego 2, Philadelphia 3  
Cincinnati 7, New York 6  
Boston 6, San Francisco 2  
Montreal 4, St. Louis 3 (10)

TUESDAY'S AL RESULTS:  
New York 7, Kansas City 3  
Toronto 5, California 0  
Boston 5, Minnesota 1  
Detroit 10, Seattle 9  
Milwaukee 10, Oakland 4  
Texas 3, Chicago 2  
Cleveland at Baltimore, ppd.

MONDAY'S AL RESULTS:  
Minnesota at Boston, ppd.

SCOREBOARD

NFL - TUESDAY'S RESULTS: Dallas 4, Calgary 3 (OT); Only game scheduled. MONDAY'S RESULTS: Hartford 3, Pittsburgh 4; Florida 5, NY Giants 3; Tampa Bay 4, NY Jets 0; Oakland 10, Kansas City 7; Minnesota 27, Cleveland 10; Houston 27, Oakland 10; Denver 27, Oakland 10; Pittsburgh 27, Oakland 10.

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL - MONDAY'S RESULTS: Collingwood 27.11 (17)

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Joseph Hoffman, Sports Editor



# A-G to review requests for journalists' records

ATTORNEY-GENERAL Michael Ben-Yair has decided that anything involving the need to go to court to impinge on a journalist's right to conceal his sources be brought to him for prior approval.

The decision was made after a meeting among representatives of his office, the State Attorney's Office, and the IDF Judge Advocate-General's Office. It was occasioned by the recent furor over revelations the IDF had obtained a court order for phone records of several journalists in an effort to identify leakers.

"It would have been appropriate to consider more carefully the need for the phone records to further the investigation into stopping the leaks," a summary of the meeting said.

The journalists involved had no knowledge that the court had ordered their phone records turned

over to the IDF, and thus had no chance to defend themselves or present their case in court, the summary noted.

The representatives also decided that, because of the violation of the right to privacy involved, any time the IDF needs the phone records of a civilian for an investigation, it will first consult with the State Attorney's Office.

It was also decided to consider amending the Law for the Protection of Privacy or the anti-electronic eavesdropping laws to give special standing to phone records.

In regard to the specific case involved, it was decided that the Military Police and Judge Advocate-General's Office would make no further use of the phone records, even though they had obtained them legally. (Tim)

## Army eases closure

THE IDF is easing the closure on Judea and Samaria and will allow 50 Palestinian workers at foreign embassies and consulates to get to their jobs today as well as allowing Jordanian citizens stuck in the Gaza Strip to return home, the IDF said yesterday.

The Jordanians will be allowed to cross the Allenby Bridge after traveling from the Gaza Strip with an IDF escort, the army said. The IDF will also allow a limited number of Palestinians seeking emergency medical attention to enter Israel.

"As a humanitarian gesture up to eight ambulances will be allowed to leave Judea and Samaria [to transport patients] in life-threatening situations," the army said.

In Hebron, the army forcibly broke up a violent demonstration at the Islamic college on Tuesday after Palestinian students tried to break their way into the campus. The IDF closed the college after the recent suicide bombings, saying the college was a hotbed of Islamic fundamentalism.

The army has temporarily declared the area around the col-

lege a closed military zone and arrested five Palestinians for violating the closure order.

The IDF said the rioters were dispersed by security forces. However, Hebron residents asserted that the troops kicked and

hit students who were attempting to force their way into the locked campus.

"While I was going to speak to the soldiers to try to calm the situation, one soldier placed his gun on my shirt and pushed me," Dr. Nahil Ja'ahry, the college president, told Reuters.

## 12 Palestinian policemen detained in Shuafat camp

BILL HUTMAN

TWELVE Palestinian policemen, some armed, were detained by border policemen Tuesday night at the entrance to the Shuafat refugee camp, in north Jerusalem, a Jerusalem police spokesman said.

The spokesman said the 12 were forbidden to be in the city because of the closure, and in addition were being questioned for allegedly operating in the refugee camp and elsewhere in the city, in violation of the peace agreements.

The policemen, members of the Palestinian Police narcotics division, were leaving the refugee camp in a van that was stopped by a Border Police patrol. Pistols, walkie-talkies, handcuffs, and cellular phones were found in the van and on the policemen, the spokesman said.

One of the policemen told investigators they had gone to the refugee camp to detain a drug dealer, although the others said they had simply dropped off a comrade who lives there.



Givat Ze'ev resident Rafi Amir welcomes visitors to his home last night for the traditional Mimouna festivities. (Arieh Jerolimski)

## Turkey confirms IAF training

ANKARA (AP) - Contradicting what it said a day earlier, the Turkish government yesterday confirmed reports that the Israel Air Force is training in Turkish air space.

On Tuesday, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said that a recent military cooperation agreement between Israeli and Turkey wouldn't allow the IAF to train in Turkish airspace or on its bases. Defense Minister Oltan Sunugulu had also denied the reports.

But yesterday, without any explanation, another Foreign Ministry spokesman, announced that such flights were taking place.

"Training flights envisioned in the military cooperation agreement taking place in either Israeli or Turkish air space do not carry weapons or electronic surveillance equipment," the spokesman said.

He added the two countries did not provide bases for each other's jets.

"Our agreement does not have any objectives directed at a third country," he said, responding to Middle Eastern countries' criticism that it threatened their security.

"Turkey has such agreements with more than 30 other countries as well, including most of its NATO allies, who use our airspace for similar training flights," he said.

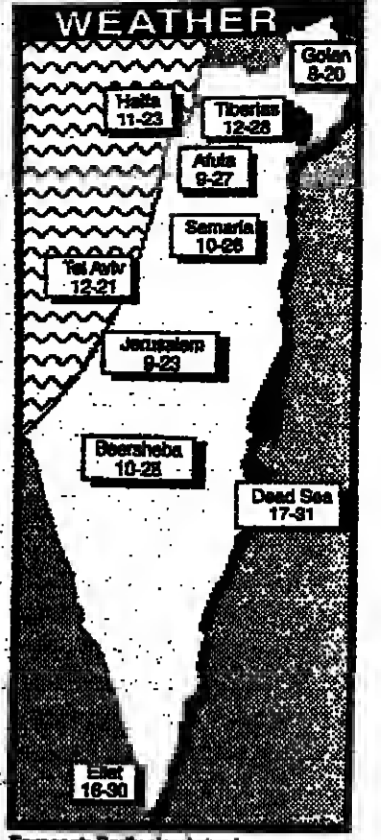
Meanwhile, Syria Tuesday lambasted Jordan and Turkey for their military ties with Israel, saying they were designed to place Syria under siege and could undermine the Middle East peace process.

Syria's government newspaper *Tishrin* said last week's visit to Israel by Jordanian Chief of Staff Gen. Abdul-Hafez Murei-Kaabneh suggested that a Jordanian-Israeli alliance is "directed against Syria... and against the US-sponsored Middle East peace process."

*Tishrin* also said Israel had exploited Syria's tense relations with Turkey over water-sharing issues to "undermine Turkish-Arab relations, to poison climates and to curtail any positive Turkish role in the region."

And Osama el-Baz, political adviser to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, also said yesterday that Israeli-Turkish military cooperation of any kind would lead to instability and possibly war in the region.

Baz said: "We say to both parties that it is not in their interests or in the interest of peace or stability in the region that some non-Arab states in the region should come and enter an alliance, or a quasi-alliance, or a partial alliance for cooperation in all defense domains, or even in a specific domain of defense."



Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear. Rise in temperatures.

### AROUND THE WORLD

Location	Low	High	Cloud
London	12	18	cloudy
Paris	10	16	cloudy
Madrid	12	18	cloudy
Rome	14	20	cloudy
Amsterdam	10	16	cloudy
Brussels	10	16	cloudy
Frankfurt	10	16	cloudy
Munich	10	16	cloudy
Berlin	10	16	cloudy
Warsaw	10	16	cloudy
Stockholm	10	16	cloudy
Copenhagen	10	16	cloudy
Helsinki	10	16	cloudy
Oslo	10	16	cloudy
Stockholm	10	16	cloudy
Copenhagen	10	16	cloudy
Helsinki	10	16	cloudy
Oslo	10	16	cloudy

### Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the Q of spades, A of hearts, Q of diamonds, and 8 of clubs.

## Father, son found dead in apparent suicide

RAINE MARCUS

A MAN, 65, and his 28-year-old son were found dead in an orange grove near Rishon LeZion yesterday morning. The two had apparently taken their own lives by running a pipe from a car's exhaust into the vehicle.

The "double death" was discovered by the pilot of a helicopter searching for stolen cars. At first, he believed the car, whose engine was left running, was stolen and alerted its owner, a friend of the son.

But then he noticed two bodies inside. Police had to smash the closed windows to get in. The younger man's sister had notified police of the pair's disappearance on Tuesday night, after she failed to contact them at the Ramat Gan home they shared.

The father, a former cabbie, had suffered from complications stemming from diabetes over the last few years and, according to friends of the family, did not have much time to live. He had been discharged from Tel Hashomer's Sheba Hospital on Monday. His son took constant care of him during his illness.

The joint suicide was apparently planned in advance and a friend of the family said the son had suffered from severe depression since his mother died about 10 years ago.

The son left several suicide notes at his home, and police found a notebook containing other indications of the planned suicide in the car.

Friends said that in recent weeks that the father and son had discussed joint suicide.

## Deri denied delay in trial

THE Supreme Court on Tuesday rejected an appeal by former interior minister Aryeh Deri, who requested that the prosecution in his fraud trial be prevented from questioning a witness until after the elections.

Deri wanted the testimony delayed so he would have time to run Shas's election campaign.

The Jerusalem District Court had previously rejected Deri's request for a continuance, saying that the case must stay on schedule.

Meir Brown is the prosecution's most important witness living abroad. As a result of the court's decision, Brown will be questioned next week in a London court. Lawyers from both sides will be at the hearing, held under a special provision for witnesses who cannot or will not come to Israel to testify.

Brown was an acquaintance of Deri and used to host him in his London home. However, the two had a falling out after Deri was asked to find a match for Brown's daughter. Brown then gave very vegeful testimony to police about Deri.

The defense appealed the decision to the Supreme Court, which rarely interferes in administrative decisions of lower courts.

Deri's lawyer argued that the district court's decision infringed on Deri's basic right to be present during legal proceedings and the right to run a political campaign.

However, the Supreme Court ruled that the lower court's decision was not a serious infringement on Deri's rights. (Tim)

## Visitors swamp nature reserves

LIAT COLLINS

MORE than half a million people are believed to have visited the country's nature reserves during the Pessah holiday.

Some 200,000 people visited the reserves which have an entrance fee, and nearly double that number toured the free reserves, according to a Nature Reserves Authority spokeswoman.

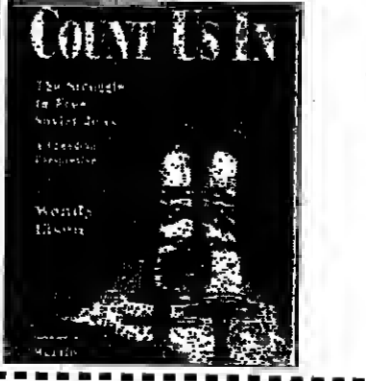
About 150 stranded hikers had to be rescued, most of them from wadis in the Golan Heights and the Judean Desert. Nearly all the incidents were due to hikers who strayed from marked paths, entered areas after dark, or did not carry sufficient water supplies.

According to NRA wardens, there was a litter problem at many sites. Part of the problem arose when visitors left their garbage in bags in the nature reserves and wild animals tore the bags open and scattered the contents. Visitors are reminded to take all garbage with them out of the reserves.

Wildlife also suffered from the wave of visitors. In the Gamla reserve on the Golan, a vulture's nest was apparently disturbed and an egg abandoned by the parent birds.

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